

October 2023



*Autumn Leaves* by American artist Georgia O'Keeffe in 1924

Visit RAL in October and enjoy two beautiful exhibits highlighting the arrival of Fall and the remarkable colors of nature. You won't want to miss these popular shows!

October also features new classes including **Plant to Paper** where you will learn to make your own paper AND paint on it! Cate Kauffman will lead a class on **portrait painting** (which would make a lovely holiday gift for a special someone) which has limited spots available. Join Juli Schuszler for **October's Paint Night** and enjoy painting a vintage red truck filled with bright orange fall pumpkins!

With the holidays right around the corner, be sure to read all the news about this year's **Holiday Shop** and **Gingerbread-ageddon!** Let the shopping and fun begin!

This month's **Gallery Windows** will feature artists **Ellen Huddy, Brenda Sylvia, and Jacquie Colligan** so be sure to do a little window shopping and come in for a visit!

## Gallery News





## Announcing... The 62nd Labor Day Art Show Winners!

A special reception for the artists and an awards ceremony was held on Friday, September 1 from 3 to 5 p.m. to kick off the celebration of the 62nd Labor Day Art Show (LDAS). The RAL Art Center's executive director, Sharon Stone, and LDAS committee co-chair, Juli Schuszler, gave a visual presentation at the ceremony. **This year's judge, James Warwick Jones**, an award-winning painter, art instructor, and former director of the Charles H. Taylor Art Center, presented his comments during the award presentation.

For the **Best in Show Award**, James Warwick Jones chose *What Was in that Pot?* a mixed media artwork by **Laurie Breakwell**. James said that it is "a wonderfully whimsical, creative expression of an interesting psychedelic idea." For the **Lella Lee Edwards Memorial Award for Excellence Overall**, Warwick chose *Let There Be Light*, a pastel by **Mel Neale**. James said, "We feel the personality of the artist in this beautifully drawn piece. It is excellent."

Other award winners were:

### Memorials

- Anne Hayes Memorial for Excellence in Watercolor: *Night Light* watercolor by **Bobby Wiltshire**
- Marge Alderson Memorial for Best Interpretation of a Landscape: *Mountain Valley Paradise* acrylic by **Brenda Sylvia**
- Joan Robinson Memorial for Best Mixed Media Abstract: *Storms A Coming* mixed media by **Jacquie Colligan**
- Maggie Gilman Memorial for Excellence in Photography: *Untitled #12* photograph by **Marianne Miller**
- Donald R. Kennedy Memorial for Most Creative Use of Color: *This Summer* oil by **Juli Schuszler**

### First Place

- *Feeding Frenzy* oil by **Laura Edwards**
- *Snorkelupagus* watercolor by **Doug Mock**
- *My Perfect Garden* handmade viscose paper felted onto a wool and silk base by **Barbara Brecher**

### Second Place

- *Come on Dun* pastel by **Delores Flessner**
- *Arcadian Autumn* oil by **Joyce Satterwhite**
- *Stoney Point* oil by **Kimberly Johnson**

### Third Place

- *Ups, Downs, and Levels of Life* acrylic by **Mary Ellis**
- *Oh Carol* fiber by **Mary Ellen Huennekens**
- *Only the Strong Survive* photo by **Harold Burnley**

### Honorable Mention

- *The Forgotten War* mixed media construction by **Ron Taylor**
- *Folkoria* oil by **Patty Mochary**
- *Tangier - Forever Timeless* watercolor by **Robert Schuler**
- *One of Nature's Monuments* oil by **Cate Kauffman**

- *Peace Movement* acrylic by Owen Inge
- *Babies- Memory Jar* assemblage by Joan Powell

### People's Choice

- *Sorry, Charlie!* fused glass by Laurie Breakwell

Images: Judge James Warwick Jones with *What Was in that Pot?* by Laurie Breakwell and *Let There Be Light*, by Mel Neale.

## Virginia Watercolor Society (VWS) Exhibit in Williamsburg

The 44th Annual VWS Exhibition will open in Williamsburg, VA on September 20, 2023, and will run through November 2, 2023. The venue for the exhibition is the Williamsburg Contemporary Art Center, 110 Westover Avenue, Williamsburg, Virginia, and is open to the public Wednesday through Saturday, 11 am to 3 pm.



Ninety artists were juried in by nationally-known water media artist, Carole Barnes. **RAL member and cooperative artist, Carol Vaughn, is one of that number.**

The exhibition showcases the skill and diversity of Virginia artists working with water media such as watercolor, acrylic, and gouache. Be sure to take the time to visit this amazing exhibit! It promises to be well worth the trip!

*Mother and Child* – 2022 VWS Exhibit Winner by Feng



## Welcome Our New smART Program Manager!

We announced several months ago that RAL Art Center had been awarded funds from The Wiley Foundation for our youth art education program, or smART: Classes for Young Artists.

With those funds, we have been able to hire **Stephanie D. Antonijuan** to serve as the **smART Program Manager**. She has a Master of Arts degree from Maastricht University, the Netherlands, and most recently worked as a Youth and Family Museum Educator at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Arkansas.

Stephanie now lives in White Stone with her parents and enjoys scuba diving, beach combing, and painting in her spare time. Please stop in Tuesday through Friday to meet Stephanie and give her a warm welcome!

## Holiday Shop 2023: Important Change for Vendors!

As you read in the August ArtLine, we are requiring that all Holiday Shop vendors limit their pricing to 12 tiers or categories. This is not a limit on the number of items that any vendor can sell – only of the price points.



Also, instead of simply showing up to set out their displays on receiving day, all vendors **MUST** submit their inventory form in advance. Find the form online at [Holiday Shop | RAL Art Center](#) or come in for a printed form. **The deadline for form submission to Charles Breakwell, [assistantdirector@ralartcenter.com](mailto:assistantdirector@ralartcenter.com), is Tuesday, November 14, 2023.** The main goal of this process is to eliminate any manual entry of items or prices. If everything can be scanned, the checkout time will be much, much shorter.

Vendors who have not submitted an inventory form will not be permitted to participate in the Holiday Shop. Please get the word out to anyone you know who might be planning to sell at RAL this year. They can read about Vendor Guidelines on our blog at [Holiday Shop 2023: Important Guidelines for Crafters](#) (ralartcenter.com).

Please do not hesitate to contact either Sharon Stone, [executivedirector@ralartcenter.com](mailto:executivedirector@ralartcenter.com), or Charles Breakwell, 804-436-9309, with any questions. We hope these changes make this the best Holiday Shop ever!



## Gingerbread-ageddon!

This holiday season, we will embark on creatively interpreting all things gingerbread! Instead of the "snowpeople" we have created in the past, think of what artistic centerpieces or statuary you can construct that evoke the look - if not the taste - of gingerbread.

Size can range from 12"x12"x12" for tabletops to 36" tall for fireside or front porch decorations. Make people, structures, or the totally unexpected. Just remember, it should be fun, artsy, and for sale to benefit RAL!



## -Holiday Shop 2023- ATTENTION MEMBERS

The annual RAL Holiday Shop gives members the opportunity to sell handmade crafts, cards, ornaments, and small works of art. Most of the items are priced at \$100 or lower, so these quality pieces fit the budget of most holiday shoppers.

This year, we are excited to announce that we will open the Holiday Shop a week earlier than usual to take advantage of Black Friday and Small Business Saturday traffic!

It's not too early to begin creating for Christmas. Please see the website for the new and improved Vendor Inventory Forms and Guidelines for Vendors related to our new point-of-sale system. **Vendors may submit their inventory forms from now through November 14th in order to participate this year.**

## RAL Art Center Photography Group

The RAL Art Center Photography Group now has 15 to 20 active members and meets on the third Monday of each month at 3:00 pm in the Pike Studio at the RAL Art Center.

Our members use cameras ranging from iPhone and Android to Mirrorless, Digital SLRs, and Point and Shoot cameras. We plan 3 to 4 Photo Walks annually, as a group. Using videos and presenters we emphasize the fundamentals of photography as well as the exciting topics of Astrophotography, ICM (Individual Camera Movement), Macro and Close-Up photography, Still-

Life, Landscapes and Portraits. Members also participate in Show and Tell at our monthly meetings.

Our year culminates with the RAL Art Center Photography Show where a Judge awards ribbons and a monetary award for the first-place winner. All RAL Art Center Members are welcome to join our group. It's a great way to learn new skills, learn from each other, and get out there with your camera!

## RAL ART CENTER PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP



## Community Outreach



### CreARTive Kids!

Join us at the RAL Art Center for CreARTive Kids, a fun hour of art and craft experiences for kids. Classes are free and supplies are provided. CreARTive kids meets the first Saturday of each month from 10 to 11am. Ages are 5 years to 11 years old. Please call the RAL Art Center, 804-436-9309, to register so that the instructor can make appropriate plans.



RAL Art Center will serve as a drop site for the Lancaster County 2023 Toys for Tots campaign! The donation box is scheduled to arrive on Monday, October 2, and will remain in the lobby throughout the campaign. **Distribution of toys will occur on Saturday, December 16**, so be sure to drop off your unwrapped toy before that date. Thank you in advance for participating in this heartwarming tradition!

## Paint Night, Try It Tuesday and Classes

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

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

804.436.9309

### Plant to Painting: Making Paper, Pigments, and Paint to Create Your Masterpiece

Instructor: Celeste Johnson, botanical artist

Dates: October 4, 11, & 18

**Time:** 10 am – 12:30 pm

**Cost:** Members: \$35/class or 3 for \$100; Non-members: \$40 or 3 for \$115

An exciting new opportunity to make your own masterpiece from scratch. This set of three workshops will allow you to make your own paper from plants, your own pigments, and paint from natural materials and put them all together in a painting.



- Class 1 – Natural Paper Making – create your own paper from plants and other natural fibers. You will use a blender to create a pulp that will be strained and managed to dry into paper.
- Class 2 – Pigment and Paint making – while your paper is drying, you will use rocks, dried plants, stones, and other natural materials to make pigments. These pigments will then be turned into a paint medium of your choice.
- Class 3 – Painting it all Together – in this class, you will use your paper and paint to create your natural masterpiece. You can paint a flower or plant used in the ingredients of your paper or paint or bring a reference of your choosing.

Supplies will be provided by the instructor but feel free to bring any of your favorite dried plants, stones, or other materials to add to the mix.

## Portraits Front-to-Back

**Instructor:** Cate Kauffman

**Dates:** Four Sundays – October 8 through 29

**Time:** 10 am – 3 pm

**Cost:** \$360 for members, \$414 for non-members

The ability to paint a portrait has been the bailiwick of artists for centuries. Whether it is creating a family heirloom or working to develop your drawing and painting skills, learning to complete a portrait is incredibly rewarding. It can take years to master this genre, but it is considered one of the critical skills all artists should have at least a basic understanding of how to complete.



In this workshop, you will work from your own reference photo and learn to develop an accurate likeness of your subject in charcoal working out the appropriate size and composition. You will learn how to transfer your drawing to your painting surface and then in either dry pastels or oils bring your painting into a full-color completed work. The instructor will provide the materials for the initial two sessions and will provide a supply list based on your choice of medium for the two painting sessions.

Participants should bring a clear photo at least 8x10 in size or larger of their subject. It is recommended that there be only one person in the photo. A self-portrait is also a possibility, and we can take and print an appropriate photo on the first day of class. Class size is limited to six students to allow for adequate attention to each.



## Abstracting the Landscape of My Mind: Oil and Cold Wax Workshop

**Instructor:** Kathleen Noffsinger

**Date:** October 14

**Time:** 10 am – 3 pm

**Cost:** Members: \$125; Non-members: \$144

Kathleen's "Creative Abstraction" workshops challenge the artist to loosely interpret every subject. It is her painting and design class for artists who would like to "loosen up" and escape the confines of detailed painting and drawing by working with artist oil paints mixed with cold wax

medium. The focus of instruction will be “deconstructing” shapes and colors to create expressive “abstracted” paintings with emphasis on color variations in the landscape. All levels are welcome.

Supply list: See the website or flyer for more information

## Alcohol Ink Shell and Mirror Tile Painting

**Instructor:** Carol Muratore, local Northern Neck Artist

**Date:** October 17, 2023

**Time:** 10:00 am – 12:30 pm

**Cost:** \$45\* for members, \$52\* for non-members

**Supply Cost:** Plus \$12 for a Set of 3 Alcohol Ink Bottles–OR– you can bring your own (minimum of 3 different colors)

Join us for another chance to work with alcohol ink. Alcohol ink is gaining popularity as a fun, bright and beautiful medium for artists. Most historical works are abstract. However, many creative artists are making new, unconventional updates as to how to work with this emerging medium. Many are also using it in combination with traditional mediums for amazing results. No matter your level, you will be able to quickly create beautiful artwork!

All experience levels are welcome.



## Acrylic Painting II

**Instructor:** Gloria Clifford, Artist

**Dates:** Thursdays, October 19–November 16,

**Time:** 1:30 – 4 pm

**Cost:** \$240 for members, \$276 for non-members

**Supply list:** Please see the website or flyer for more information

This class is open to beginners and/or intermediate students. It is for all those who would like to learn additional skills and for those who wish to experience the process of painting with acrylics. Having some knowledge of drawing and color mixing will be helpful but is not required.

For those who are more familiar with the basic methods of using acrylics, continued acrylic techniques and the use of mediums will be addressed. Come ready to have fun while also creating your very own works of art you'll be proud of!

## Watermedia Fun and Free II

**Instructor:** Gloria Clifford, Artist

**Dates:** Thursdays, October 19–November 16

**Time:** 10 – 12:30 pm

**Cost:** \$240 for members, \$276 for non-members

**Supply list:** See website or flyer for more information



This BRAND NEW class offering will introduce two water-based mediums, watercolor and acrylics, in a completely fun and free way. Although several additional water-based materials may also be used and demonstrated by the instructor, the emphasis of this class will cover how to creatively use watercolor and acrylic paints in nontraditional ways.

Some knowledge of watercolor painting and/or acrylic painting is helpful but not required. Although this is not an abstract painting class, abstract ways of thinking and application of mediums will be encouraged. This is a class for anyone who wishes to break out of the norm and/or who doesn't always want to follow traditional methods of painting. It's a class for those who want the freedom to experiment!



## October Paint Night: Hello Fall

Instructor: Juli Schuszler, Artist

Date: Thursday – Oct. 26

Time: 5 – 7 pm \*Please note the new time!

Cost: \$35 for Members, \$40 for Non-members

Join us to have fun painting a fall scene. This class will be completed using acrylic paint on an 11" x 14" stretched canvas. Create a painting of a red pickup truck filled with pumpkins.

All levels of experience are welcome, from beginner to experienced. You will receive a reference picture and printed step-by-step directions. Special instruction will be available to those needing help mixing colors and applying paint to create the fall scene. Feel free to bring your favorite beverages and snacks to make the evening even more special. Bring a friend, neighbor, relative, or spouse for this fun and engaging class.

## Upcoming Exhibits

### October 2023 ~ Fall Is Here!

Who doesn't love the onset of cooler mornings, colored foliage, and the prospect of cozy evenings by a fire?

Take a moment to share with us your vision of fall. Landscapes are welcome, but so are all things autumn, from football to bountiful produce to family celebrations! Think outside the box and surprise us!

**Receiving:** Monday, October 2 from 10 am to 12 pm

**Exhibit Dates:** Tuesday, October 3 through Saturday, October 28

**First Friday Reception:** Friday, October 6 from 5 to 7 pm

*One Lane Bridge* by Ellen Huddy



### October 2023 ~ Color My World

Celebrate Nature's color show with vivid, saturated landscapes! This exhibit theme also applies to colorful interiors, objects, animals, and people. What colors your world? Show us your art!

**Receiving:** Monday, October 2 from 10 am to 12 pm

**Exhibit Dates:** Tuesday, October 3 through Saturday, October 28

**First Friday Reception:** Friday, October 6 from 5 to 7 pm

*Summer Mountain Elegy* by Karen Kingsley





## November 2023 ~ This and That

We are pleased to have two very talented artists exhibiting their work on our Mobile Display Units in November. They are members **Jorie Wiley** and **Suzanne Quel Mehfoud**.

Currently living in Richmond, **Jorie** describes her art journey in this way: *"I have always loved art and want to create what I see. I have been painting since 2004 when I started experimenting with oil painting. Juggling the work of painting with raising three children was a real adventure! I have been a member of the Tuckahoe Artist Association for several years and have taken classes from several talented artists in the Richmond area. I love to paint landscapes, living creatures, and capture beauty and atmosphere in my paintings."*

Also based in Richmond, **Suzanne** says, *"Some of my earliest childhood memories are of hours spent, pencil in hand creating entire stories of animals and people. This led to a BFA in Art Education from VCU. And now I find painting creatures human and otherwise as intriguing as those drawn stories from the past."*

**Exhibit Dates:** Tuesday, October 31 through Saturday, November 25

**Reception:** Friday, November 3 from 5 to 7 pm

From left to right: *Hello* by Jorie Wiley and *Jacques* by Suzanne Quel Mehfoud

## November 2023 ~ Express Yourself

This is every member's chance to enter art that is inspired by thought or emotion. Whatever you want to say, whatever you want others to think about - that is what we want to see.

Express yourself in color, line, or perspective. Make it dreamlike, real, or abstract. Push the envelope or play it safe, but in either case, show us something about you!

**Receiving:** Monday, October 30 from 10 am to 12 pm

**Exhibit Dates:** Tuesday, October 31 through Saturday, November 18

**Reception:** Friday, November 3 from 5 to 7 pm

*Bright Sunny Day* by Mary Ellis



## November 2023 ~ Jewelry Show

The annual RAL Jewelry Show is coming soon! Our co-op jewelry artists will once again display treasures to entice anyone who appreciates things that glitter and sparkle!

Be sure to mark your calendar and make your gift list because you are sure to find something for everyone - including yourself!

**Show dates:** Friday and Saturday, November 10 and 11 during

regular business hours



### –Holiday Shop 2023–

Help us transform the RAL Art Center into a veritable Santa's Workshop!

This year, we are excited to announce that we will open the Holiday Shop a week earlier than usual to take advantage of Black Friday and Small Business Saturday traffic!

Crafts, gifts, ornaments, and cards can be submitted during the receiving hours. But be sure to follow the vendor instructions posted on the website and described in the article above!

**Receiving: Monday, November 20 from 10 am to 2 pm**

**Exhibit Dates: Tuesday, November 21 through Saturday, December 30**

### December 2023 ~ Photography Show

The RAL Art Center Annual Photography Show exhibits the photographer's favorite artwork whether it is landscape, water scenes, flowers, portraits of people or pets, historical buildings, towns, and scenes from the local areas or from their travels.

Photographers may enter their own images that have been taken by their digital or film camera or their cell phone. Generative AI is not permitted. Post-processing using current digital tools is permitted. Tell your story, display your vision, and share your art with viewers!!

Steve Kancianic, owner of Yours Truly Photography, will judge the show. He was born in Falls Church but considers Easton, Pennsylvania, his hometown – a medium-sized city north of Philadelphia. He attended Penn State Berks Campus in Reading, Pennsylvania, as well as Antonelli Institute of Art & Photography– an intense photography school just outside Philadelphia. After graduation, he married his high school sweetheart, Rachel, and moved to Pittsburgh. It was in Pittsburgh that we created the name Yours Truly Photography on the porch of our tiny apartment. In 2006 we made the decision to move to Virginia for warmer weather and a life on the water. Yours Truly Photography was officially established in 2007.



**Receiving: November 27 from 10 am to 12 pm**

Exhibit Dates: November 28 through December 30  
Reception: Friday, December 1 from 5 to 7 pm

## 2023–2024 Exhibits & Special Events

2023

October *Color My World and Fall is Here*

November *Express Yourself and*

*This and That with visiting Artists Suzanne Quel & Jorie Wiley; Jewelry Show (Nov. 10–11)*

*Holiday Shop opens November 21, 2023*

December *Holiday Shop and Photography Show*

*Holiday Party (Friday, December 1, 5–7 pm)*



2024

January – *75 Years of Art Inspiration and Close-Ups*

February – *Black, White, and Grey All Over and A Touch of Color*

March – *Absolutely Anything and My Favorite Things*

April – *From the Garden and Visiting Artist, Catherine Hillis*

May – *Art in Transit and Hip to Be Square*

June – *Art Heist and Simplicity*

July – *Driven to Abstraction and Small Works*

August – *Critters and Creatures and Bay Aging Tartan Village Art Students*

September – *63rd LDAS Show Co-op show in Stouffer Room*

October – *Water: Above and Below and Visiting Artist, Robin Caspari*

November – *Sunrise, Sunset, & Nocturns and From My Travels*

*Holiday Shop opens November 26, 2024*

December – *Holiday Shop continues, Photography Show*

## September's Gallery Window Artists



### Meet this Month's Window Artists...

This month we are very happy to present the work of three talented RAL Co-op Artists:  
Ellen Huddy, Brenda Sylvia, and Jacquie Colligan

Our first window artist during October is **Ellen Huddy**. She says, “*With the exception of two semesters of drawing studio in college I had no formal education in art. After joining the RAL I began taking some beginner watercolor classes and progressed through different levels with various instructors over several years. I have greatly enjoyed and benefited from these workshops and have also enjoyed getting to know and being inspired by the many talented artists that I’ve met here. The beauty of the rural countryside and the Chesapeake Bay waters are often my inspiration. Each painting I do represents a moment or an experience in my life, often working from photos or composites of photos. I strive to capture the light and the mood that may define the photo or the memory. Although these moments are unique to me, they are not uncommon experiences, and it is my hope that the viewer may also identify with that moment and appreciate what it may mean to them.*”

**Brenda Sylvia** is the second artist featured in our front windows. She says, “*The act of painting outside and experiencing nature firsthand is an integral part of my work. I am energized by the dynamic beauty of nature and through painting en plein air, I strengthen my connection to a specific place. In 2017, I moved back to Virginia after living and painting in the US Virgin Islands for nine years. Living in the tropics influenced my artwork in many ways. Now I am even more obsessed with color! Natural beauty has always been important to my artwork and my life. Here in the Northern Neck of Virginia, I am once again surrounded by inspiring landscapes which are my favorite subject. I strive to create a sense of place in my art. I want the viewer to ‘see and feel’ what I do in the subjects I choose to paint. My paintings here capture the beauty of rural life by the Chesapeake Bay.*”

Rounding out the three windows artists is jewelry designer, **Jacquie Colligan**. Her avant-garde style has been inspired through study as well as by her visits to mineral-rich regions, such as Montana. This month, look for her work using Montana Agate in pendants and other beautiful pieces.

**Be sure to linger on our front sidewalk to take in these amazing displays!**

From left to right: *Daffodil Window* by Ellen Huddy, *A Perfect Day* by Brenda Sylvia, *Montana Agate Pendant* by Jacquie Colligan



## 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.

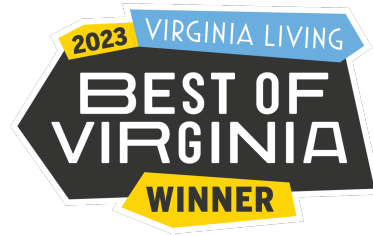
The RAL Art Center is a community partner of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and is partially supported by grants from the Virginia Commission for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the River Counties Community Foundation.

### Officers 2023

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



THE NETTIE LOKEY WILEY *and*  
CHARLES L. WILEY FOUNDATION



---

Executive Director: Sharon Stone

[ral@ralartcenter.com](mailto:ral@ralartcenter.com)

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

**OUR HOURS ARE:**

**TUESDAY – SATURDAY 10:00am – 4:00pm**

Phone: 804.436.9309

Support the RAL Art Center



---

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

[Unsubscribe ral@ralartcenter.com](mailto:ral@ralartcenter.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [ral@ralartcenter.com](mailto:ral@ralartcenter.com) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!