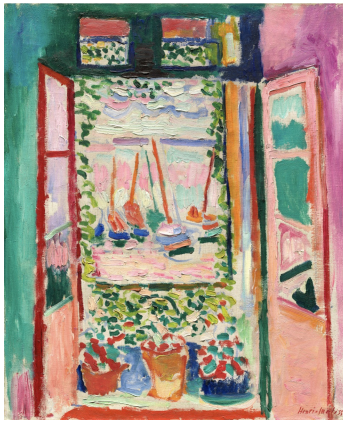


AUGUST 2023



Henri Matisse, *Open Window, Collioure*, 1905, oil on canvas, (National Gallery of Art, Washington)

Visit RAL in August and enjoy two wonderful exhibits, **Wild Things** and an exhibit of **watercolor paintings** by visiting artist, **Cindy Kinney**.

Feeling Creative?

Sign up for **Try It Tuesday** and make your own miniature fairy wings or try your hand at painting swimming sea turtles with Juli Schuszler at **August's Paint Night**.

This month's **Gallery Windows** will feature artists **Sarah Soderlund, Courtney Guerrant and Ron Taylor** so be sure to do a little window shopping and come in for a visit!

Ready to learn more about and improve your landscape paintings? Well-known artist **Kyle Buckland** will lead a 3-day class this month so claim your spot today!

Gallery News



**62ND
LABOR
DAY
ART
SHOW**
August 30-September 23



Mark Your Calendars! The 62nd Labor Day Art Show August 30 –September 23, 2023

The RAL Art Center invites all members, 18 and older, to enter its annual Labor Day Art Show. We hope to exhibit 200 original works of art that have never been seen before! AND, we plan to welcome many new, first-time artists to our 62nd Labor Day Art Show.

This art show is not juried, but is it judged. This means that, although work will not be

evaluated in order to be accepted, ribbons and cash prizes will be awarded. Once again, a **People's Choice Award** will be announced based on votes cast during the exhibit.

The **deadline to submit entry forms and fees is Saturday, August 12th by 4 pm**. The **artwork delivery dates are August 26th, 27th, and 28th from 10 am to 12 noon** at the RAL Art Center. If you are already a member of RAL, please consider entering this fantastic show. If you aren't a member, you can still join RAL and be a part of what most members consider to be **the pinnacle exhibit of the year!**

You may submit your entry form and pay the entry fee in person at the RAL Art Center or on RAL's website, <https://www.ralartcenter.com/>. Both the prospectus and the entry form are available on the website. Also, you'll find the biography and **judging criteria of our judge, James**

Warwick Jones. The exhibit runs from August 30th to September 23rd . Join us for the **First Friday reception on September 1st** when the winners are unveiled.

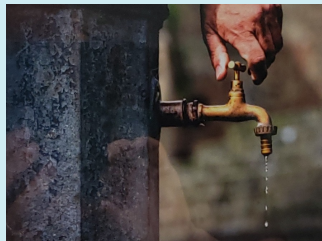
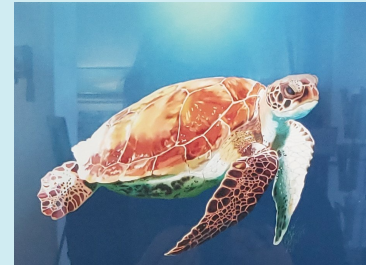
Our Labor Day Art Show is **one of the longest-standing visual art shows in Virginia** and has also been awarded the **Virginia Living Magazine's Best of Virginia 2023 for Art Events**. We are proud to be in our 62nd year. We hope that you, your family, your neighbors, and your friends visit often!

Receiving: August 26 – 28, 10 am to 12 pm

Exhibit Dates: August 30 – September 23

Reception: Friday, September 1, 5 – 7 pm

Old World Boats Vby Sarah Marshall Elliott~ 2023 Labor Day Art Show Best in Show



Clockwise from top left, *Got Fries?*, *Chesapeake Wave*, *Sea Turtle in Peace*, *Cap Nap*, *Drip, Drip, Drip* and *Beach Walk at the Marina*

RAL ART CENTER ANNOUNCES AWARDS FOR JULY EXHIBITS “COASTAL LIVING” AND “SMALL WORKS”

Kay van Dyke, an architect, and owner of Village Art in Gloucester, VA, served as the judge for the two July exhibits. Kay made her selections from the one hundred original artworks in these two shows, Coastal Living and Small Works, which included paintings, photography, fiber art, glass, and sculpture entered by member artists.

In the **Coastal Living** exhibit, Kay van Dyke awarded **First Place to *Got Fries?* a watercolor painting by Linda Goldstein**. She said that it was “not only a skillful watercolor, but the use of a plump bird shape and leftover space is really well done.” **Dave Hershiser’s oil painting, *Chesapeake Wave*, received Second Place**. Kay said that it was “skillful . . . an unusual wave painting, without the normal blue-green backlit wave.” **Third Place went to the photo, *Sea Turtle in Peace*, by Andre O. Smith**. Kay said that it was an “outstanding, clear photo and digital results of a favorite creature.”

Honorable mentions went to the photo, *Fogged In – No Fishing*, by **Gayle Werling**; the acrylic painting, *Beach Memory*, by **Bob Casazza**; the photo, *Celebrate*, by **Annie Barsky**; and the mosaic sculpture, *Summer Duck*, by **Joy Bolger**.

In the **Small Works** exhibit, **First Place went to *Beach Walk at the Marina*, by Bonnie-Leigh Jones**. Kay commented that the oil and cold wax painting was a “very fine realistic oil” and expressed a “good feeling for the beach.” The photo, *Drip, Drip, Drip*, by **Jeff Barsky** took **Second Place**. Kay commented that it was a “creative photo shot” and that it was “well done and skillful.” The acrylic painting, *Cat Nap*, by **Brenda Sylvia** received **Third Place**. Kay said that it displayed “good graphics and design” and that it had “great colors and was almost abstract.”

Honorable Mentions were awarded to the punch needle piece, *Heron*, by **Cheryl Mihills**; the

watercolor painting, *Forest Stream*, by Linda Goldstein; the acrylic painting, *Flowers and Vases II*, by Diana Jamison; and *Baxter, a Burmese Kitten*, an oil painting by Maria Whitehead.



Meet Our New Team Leaders

It seems this year is full of new things and people! We not only have introduced the new Executive Director and the new Assistant Director, but also two new volunteer leaders. Now, there are a few more to mention.

Please make a note of the names, contact information, and areas of responsibility below. As always, any general questions may be directed to RAL@ralartcenter.com or by calling 804-436-9309.

Gallery Team: Cate Kauffman – Cate2652@icloud.com

Exhibit Team: Juli Schuszler – Jsemanski@cox.net

Jury Team: Mary Ellis – [Mary1ellis@aol.com](mailto:Maryl1ellis@aol.com)

Communications/Marketing Team: Christine Mason – Christinemason2@yahoo.com

Membership Team: Dale Coburn – Dale.ralac@gmail.com

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Karen Williams – Larkarwillfish@gmail.com

Adult Workshops Coordinator: Karen Mungiu – Classes@ralartcenter.com

Desk Volunteer Coordinator: Laura Ann Cline – Volunteer@ralartcenter.com

Website and Data Management: Sharon Stone – Executivedirector@ralartcenter.com,
Charles Breakwell – Assistantdirector@ralartcenter.com

Job Opportunity at RAL: smART Program Manager

The RAL Art Center seeks an educational professional to manage its new smART Program for Young Artists, an outreach that touches children and youth in the counties of Lancaster and Northumberland. The program activities are engaging, interactive, and a learning opportunity for students who may not have ever had an arts learning experience before.



The smART Program Manager should have at least 8 years of experience in K-12 education; K-12 administrative experience is highly desirable. Some experience with the visual arts and working with special populations is also desirable. Educational program development and evaluation is a key skill, as is the ability to lead teams, mentor instructors, and coordinate effectively with internal and external stakeholders. The successful candidate will possess excellent verbal and written communication skills to promote the smART Program in the community and with funding agencies.

This is a part-time position (26-30 hours/week) and is partially funded by a grant from The Wiley Foundation. Pay is competitive and commensurate with experience. To apply, please send a resume and cover letter to RAL Art Center, ATTN: Executive Director, 19 N. Main St., Kilmarnock, VA 22482 or email the same to executivedirector@ralartcenter.com.

Holiday Shop 2023: Important Guidelines for Crafters

Streamlining the checkout process for the annual Holiday Shop is one of the most requested pieces of feedback from crafters, customers, and desk



volunteers. This year we will have technology on our side – but with some **important changes for our crafty vendors.**

All items in the Holiday Shop must be entered into our point-of-sale system ahead of time so that we can create barcodes. This means that we must also limit the number of barcodes allotted to each vendor. After consulting with those crafters who attended the Christmas Eve in July planning meeting, we have agreed that each vendor will be allowed 12 unique barcodes for their work.

What does this mean?

Well, for example, a vendor may create an unlimited number of Christmas ornaments that all have the same price of \$5; then she/he may create an unlimited number of cards for the price of \$7.50. The vendor will have used only two of her/his barcodes. If the vendor makes stocking stuffers, perhaps stocking stuffer A is large, fluffy, and costs \$10; stocking stuffer B is small, wooden, intricate, and costs \$12; stocking stuffer C is small, wooden, simple and costs \$5. In that case, the vendor will have used three barcodes.

So, we are asking all potential vendors to think about this new way of organizing their work. Think in terms of categories – each to be represented by a single barcode – instead of a unique inventory or item number. If a vendor needs a unique barcode for each item, then that vendor will be able to enter only 12 items into the Holiday Shop. However, if vendors can group several types of items into a price category, such as “Christmas Ornament, \$5,” or “Stocking Stuffer, \$10,” then those vendors will essentially have limitless opportunities for sales.

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. This will lead to happier customers, happier volunteers, and more sales for vendors overall. Who knows? Maybe this will be the happiest holiday season ever!

Stay tuned for specific price tag requirements coming soon. All Holiday Shop information will be posted on the website in August and any inquiries may be directed to Charles Breakwell at assistantdirector@ralartcenter.com.

Happy Crafting!

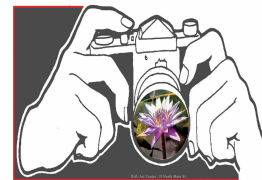
RAL Art Center Photography Group

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



Paint Night, Try It Tuesday and Classes

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

www.ralartcenter.com or call



August's Try It Tuesday: Wings and Things Part II – Miniature Fairy Wings

Instructor: Rebecca West

Date/Time: Tuesday, August 8, 6–8 pm

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

Join us to design and make your own miniature fairy wings. Creating art with fantasy film is as easy as designing, drawing, cutting, and assembling.

This month's Try It Tuesday will allow you to experiment with construction using wire, glue, and translucent material. You will leave with your own set (or sets) of miniature fairy wings to use as decoration, gifts, or however you choose. Feel free to bring a snack, a beverage, and a friend or two.



Visiting Artist Workshop: Landscape Painting with Kyle Buckland

Dates: Friday, Saturday & Sunday – August 18, 19, & 20

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

Cost: \$390 for members; \$430 for non-members

Come join Kyle 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.

August Paint Night: Swimming Sea Turtles

Instructor: Juli Schuszler

Dates: Thursday, August 24

Time: 6–8 pm

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

Join us on August 24 to have fun painting an underwater scene of sea turtles swimming in a sparkling sea. an underwater scene. This class will be completed using acrylic paint on an 11" x 14" stretched canvas and all levels of experience are welcome, from beginner to experienced.



Attendees 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 gradient in the water and the shapes of the sea life.

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.



August 2023 ~ Wild Things Exhibit

From wild animals to wildflowers, from wild child to wild weather, this exhibit invites the entirely undomesticated to take center stage.

Be sure to send an artist statement to Barb Brecher (500 characters or less to barb@brecherdesign.com) to explain why these entries are wild!

Receiving: Monday, July 31, 10 AM – 12 PM
Exhibit Dates: August 1 to August 26

Reception: Friday, August 4, 5–7 PM

On Patrol, photography by Bob Sutherland

August 2023 ~ Visiting Artist Cindy Kinney

In August, RAL Art Center welcomes visiting artist, Cindy Kinney, and her exhibit of watercolor paintings.

Originally from Baltimore, Cindy moved to Richmond as a child and currently lives there. She spent most of her career at Virginia Commonwealth University, retiring in 2022. She says, “I have been creatively and artistically inclined ever since childhood. When Santa gave me that big box of 64 color crayons, it was the best thing ever. I started working in watercolor in 1989 and added working in oils later. I have studied with a number of local Richmond artists and have been included in exhibits in Virginia.

“I try to capture light and color in my paintings. My goal is to find beauty in everything and share that beauty with others.” She adds, “When the cares and craziness of the world become too much, Nature gives us peace and healing for our hearts and souls. This exhibit includes paintings of places and things that have brought me peace and joy.”



Exhibit Dates: August 1 to August 26
Reception: Friday, August 4, 5–7 PM

Daffodil by Cindy Kinney

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

2023 Exhibits & Special Events

September *62nd Annual Labor Day Art Show*

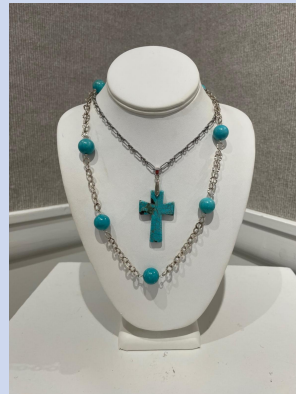
October *Color My World and Fall is Here*

November *Express Yourself and Visiting Artists Suzanne Quel & Jorie Wiley; Jewelry Show (Nov. 10-11)*

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



August's Gallery Window Artists



Meet the Artists...

Sarah Soderlund

I began realistic painting in watercolor thirty years ago when I moved to Kilmarnock. I used to look at abstract art and think "Anyone can do that." I quickly learned that this is absolutely not true! I was completely captivated by the use of color and line in abstract works. I continue to explore this style using acrylics and sometimes collages. My use of bright color and form is intended to draw the viewer in, make them think, and make them chuckle. It's likely no two people will see the same thing in my work.

Ron Taylor

I am a self-taught artist with a vivid imagination. My imagination is the driving force behind all my art. In my mind, I visualize it and often dream about it. I sketch it, then pick a medium that best suits my idea. I enjoy working in all mediums. I see no boundaries. You will see my work in oils, acrylic, watercolor, pastel, wood, metal, or anything else that best conveys the end

result. This is my palette. This is my expression. I speak two languages, English, and Art. All the human emotions are there: love, hate, happiness, sorrow, and quite often, in my case, whimsy. Art is the message. I am the messenger.

Courtney Guerrant

After decades of designing and making “one-of-a-kind” jewelry, I am still inspired to create wearable art. I was born and raised in Virginia, and as Southerners know, “the pearl necklace” was a woman’s first choice. Living in the Arizona desert for thirty years, however, I found my second love: turquoise. Being influenced by traditional jewelry, the classic pearl, and the Native American silver and turquoise designs, I am challenged to create modern, unexpected looks in jewelry. The old and the new; the yin and the yang. I love the hunt for vintage finds in antique and thrift stores and turning these finds into modern jewelry art.

From left to right: *Deep Seaby* by Sarah Soderlund; *Turquoise and Silver Jewelry* by Courtney Guerrant, Ron Taylor's, *Chinese New Year*

Community Outreach



Summer Youth Art Camp Successes

More than 50 kids participated in the past seven weeks of Summer Art Camp in the RAL Pike Studio – and we still have two weeks to go! From painting with shaving cream to learning to cartoon, kids enjoyed their 5 days exploring the many different ways of creating art. Many, many thanks to the wonderful instructors and classroom assistants who engaged with the kids and make their week a fun experience!

CreARTive Kids: Free Art and Craft Classes for Kids

Every first Saturday, RAL Art Center offers a free art and craft class for kids ages 6 –9. Karen Williams leads the children in making a fun project to spark their creativity. The classes are free and all supplies are included. Please sign up in advance by calling 804-436-9309 or coming into the gallery in person. The next class is scheduled for August 5, 2023.



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

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:

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

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