

JUNE 2023



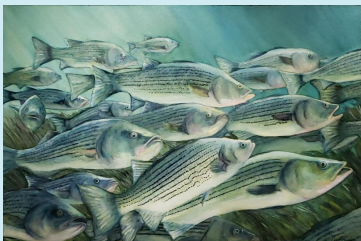
Visit RAL Art Center in June to preview all of the amazing art donated for the 2023 Great Art Heist! This is also the time to create your Wish List, ordering the art from most to least favorite, before the mayhem of the Heist begins.

Art Heist tickets are still available, but please don't wait long to buy yours because they go fast once people see the art up for grabs. **Get your tickets NOW for this fun, art-filled night. Don't forget, this is RAL's biggest and most important fundraiser of the year so please, come to one of the liveliest nights on the Northern Neck and leave with some great art!**

Our June Gallery Windows will feature artists **Bob Casazza, Laurie Breakwell, and Gloria Clifford...talk about color and excitement!**

Be sure to sign up for **Try It Tuesday, Paint Night, iPhone Advanced Photography Workshop, AND RAL's Open Critique!**

Gallery News



ART IN TRANSIT WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Twenty-four artists participated in this third year, a much-anticipated collaboration between the

Sharon Mason Stone, Executive Director of the RAL Art Center, and Ken Pollock, Executive Director of Bay Transit, announced the awards for the “Art in Transit” competition at a special Friday night reception on May 19. This art exhibit was judged by Pam Doss, Executive Director of the Bay School Community Arts Center, and Mike Stevens, owner of Gander Designs. Mike possesses the expertise for designing and producing the large format application of vehicle wrap used for this project.

Pam said that the selections that were made reflect how the artwork would look on the bus, and how it would feel seeing it as the art passed by on our winding country roads. The judges felt that three paintings stood out above all the rest.

They chose *Cruisin' and Racin'*, an oil painting by Sarah Marshall Elliott, as the first-place winner. Doss stated that this painting captures intense movement, tension, speed, and the absolute thrill of the race. Seeing this painterly work race by on the side of a bus will give viewers a thrill.

Second place was awarded to *Rappahannock Rockfish*, a watercolor by Carol Vaughn . Pam said the energy captured in this bustling, crowded school of fish is brilliant, as is the play of light across their bodies and scales. It is a clever and fun take on the subject matter.

The judges chose *Summer Fun*, a watercolor by Doug Mock, for third place . They stated that the name of the painting perfectly reflects the scene it captured. The colors are vibrant, with bright white showcasing brilliant splashes of water in motion.

During the reception, the Bay Transit bus arrived at the RAL Art Center, revealing the winning art. Sarah Marshall Elliott signed the side of the bus, and the celebration began.

All three winners are award-winning artists, and their work can be seen at the RAL Art Center Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 am to 4 pm.

Top: Sharon Mason Stone, Sarah Marshal Elliott, and Ken Pollock in front of the newly-adorned bus. From right to left: *Rappahannock Rockfish* by Carol Vaughn, *Cruisin' and Racin'* by Sarah Marshall Elliott, and *Summer Fun* by Doug Mock



RAL ART CENTER ANNOUNCES SKY'S THE LIMIT EXHIBIT AWARDS

Skies of all descriptions are displayed in “Sky’s the Limit.” The 41 original pieces in this show include paintings, photography, fiber art, glass, and sculpture entered by member artists. Pam Doss, Executive Director of the Bay School Community Arts Center, located in Mathews, Virginia judged the exhibit.

Pam chose the oil painting *Before the Storm* by Maria Whitehead for First Place. “This piece immediately grabbed my attention,” she said, “and I kept returning to it. Above the balanced composition and skilled brush strokes, the color is what stands out to me. There are two distinct color palettes in this painting, and both read absolutely true to me. That wicked, eerie light just before a storm, when the ozone is flooding the sky and you know all hell is about to break loose, is captured perfectly in both sky and marsh.”

Second place went to *Reaching Out*, an oil painting



by **Juli Schuszler**. Pam said, “This vibrant painting stopped me in my tracks. It is impossible to walk anywhere near it and not be drawn in.”

Third place went to *Mangrove Sunrise*, a soft pastel by **Mel Neale**. “If you’ve ever woken up at dawn in the Florida Keys, you know exactly what this painting feels like,” said Pam. “The thick, luscious strokes of pastel evoke the heaviness of the humid air found among the mangroves.”

Honorable mentions went to *Red Sky at Night*, a photograph by **Harold Burnley**; *Cruising Attitude*, an oil painting by **Patty Mochary**; and *A Sail in the Clouds*, a mixed media piece by **Sammy Anderson**.

THE RAL ART CENTER WELCOMES TWO NEW CO-OP ARTISTS



Alicia White Daily is our newest potter, and an artist of many talents. She has been a practicing potter since she was 15 and has been drawing and painting “forever.” Her formal art education is extensive, with a BA in design from Duke, as well as graduate work at several Universities. Her work reflects a love of the natural world, including birds, horses, and trees depicted in a playful, stylistic manner.

Currently on display at RAL are platters, whimsical pitchers, and charming bird feeders. Alicia was recently honored to receive the Students’ Choice Award at the Art Speaks show in Mathews for her fanciful ceramic assemblage “After the Tea Party Fountain.”



Bonnie-Leigh Jones and her husband retired to the Northern Neck after raising a family and pursuing a career in Richmond. She has enjoyed exploring painting throughout her life, taking occasional workshops, and experimenting on her own in various media, ultimately working mostly in acrylics. However, when she was introduced to and began painting in oil and cold wax medium a year ago, she was hooked!

The beauty of the landscapes around her inspires her loosely painted and expressive works, and her regional land and waterscapes have been winning her awards at the RAL Art Center and beyond. Two of Bonnie-Leigh’s paintings recently took first and second place in our two April shows.



COMING JUNE 24th ~ THE GREAT ART HEIST!

All the fun and excitement of RAL Art Center’s **16th Annual Great Art Heist** is happening soon!

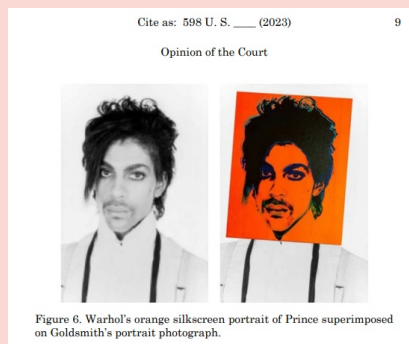
Be sure to get your tickets NOW for the big event to be held on Saturday, June 24 from 4 pm to 8 pm. **Participant tickets are \$150 for members and \$200 for non-members.** The non-member ticket includes a \$50 Friend level annual membership at RAL beginning July 1, 2023. In addition to enjoying each other, delicious food, soothing spirits and entertaining emcees, don’t forget these fun facts:

- Members and friends of RAL have donated original works of **art valued at or over \$175**. Original art is created by the donor or from the donor's personal collection!
- **We have AMAZING art this year** including paintings, jewelry, wood, photography, ceramics, fiber, baskets, sculpture, needlework and more!
- Artwork is exhibited at the RAL Art Center and is available for preview during regular business hours from May 30 to June 24. **Ticket holders can now get blank Wish Lists at RAL or from the website**; complete yours ahead of time to have the best possible Heist experience.
- This is RAL's biggest fundraiser of the year and your support means so much to our organization and its ability to deliver on its mission! Thank YOU!

The Heist reception begins at 4 pm; beverages and delicious hors d'oeuvres will be served. The drawing begins promptly at 5 pm.

To reserve your ticket(s), use the online form on our website (ralartcenter.com), visit the gallery in person, or call us at 804-436-9309. Tickets are already going fast!

Please Note:
The RAL Art Center will close at noon on Saturday, June 24th, to prepare for The Great Art Heist.



Supreme Court Fair Use Decision

RAL member and artist, Cate Kauffman, provided us with information about a recent Supreme Court fair use decision that could impact all artists and our exhibits at RAL Art Center. In a 7-2 decision, the Supreme Court ruled that the use of another artist's work in the creation of new art is not legal unless "the use has a purpose and character that is sufficiently distinct from the original." The case

involved the superimposed image of an Andy Warhol portrait on the photographed portrait of Prince, taken by Lynn Goldsmith in 1981. Read more by clicking this link to the Reuter's article: [Warhol estate loses U.S. Supreme Court copyright battle over Prince artwork | Reuters](#)

Volunteering is a "Work of Heart"

And RAL has plenty of "heart work" for you!

The RAL Art Center is what it is today because of the tremendous efforts of volunteers. As a member, you can join this esteemed group by joining one of the operational teams or by working at the front desk. By volunteering, you will find your membership greatly enhanced. You will get to know more about the Art Center, the Artists, the Community, and yourself!



Helpers needed for summer camp – One area in need of volunteers is our Summer Youth Art Camps. We have teachers, but we need YOU to help set up, clean up, and just be the second adult in the room. We have sessions each weekday morning and afternoon, three hours per class. The first camp begins on June 12th. There are 9 different week-long sessions, and all the details are on the website.

Please contact Karen Williams if you can help (larkarwillfish@gmail.com). We look forward to your

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

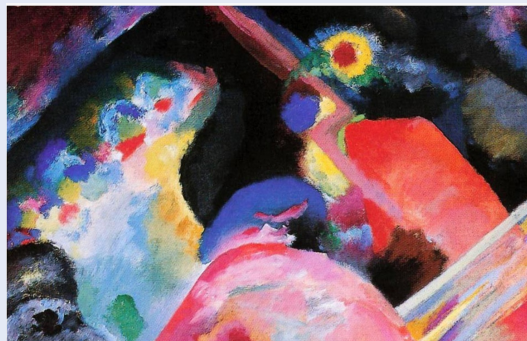
June's Try It Tuesday: Music to Inspire Painting

Instructor: Celeste Johnston

Date: Tuesday, June 13

Time: 6 –8 pm

Cost: \$35 for RAL members; \$40 for non-members (price includes a \$5 supply fee)



Want to learn to paint with the inspiration of Van Gogh, Hockney, or even Marilyn Monroe? Many people turn on music as they paint. Do you realize how it inspires you or impacts your painting?

Please come join us for a fun workshop to learn about the phenomenon of synesthesia – music and painting. You will experiment with layering paints or “doing fat over lean.” Feel free to bring a snack, a beverage, and a friend or two.

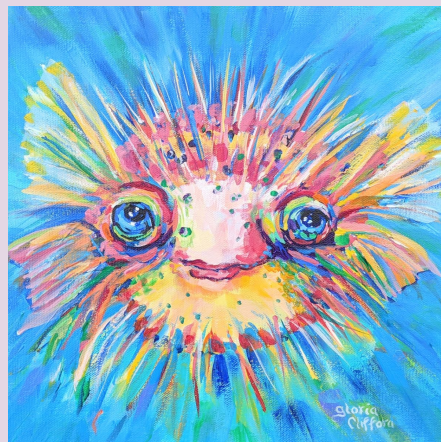
June's Paint Night

Instructor: Gloria Clifford

Dates: Thursday, June 22, 2023

Time: 6–8 pm

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



Create a delightful puffer fish painting to add to your collection or share with friends. Join your instructor Gloria Clifford to paint this original work. Bring your favorite beverage, a snack, and a friend or two for this enjoyable evening. Paint nights are for everyone at all experience levels and a great way to socialize with others who like art and fun.

iPhone Advanced Photography Workshop

Instructor: Caroline Maryan

Dates: Sunday, July 9, 2023

Time: 1–4 pm

Cost: \$50 for members; \$55 for non-members



Join us for a three-hour hands-on Advanced iPhone Photography Workshop with Williamsburg-based travel photographer, Caroline Maryan. The workshop is open to anyone who is already comfortable using the iPhone camera. It is not an introductory class.

We'll start by digging deeper into the modes offered on the iPhone, like Pano, Portrait, Macro, Live, Burst, and Night Mode. Next, we'll learn how to create beautiful memories with video modes: Video, Time-Lapse, and Slo-Mo. The short films we can make with Slo-Mo will melt your heart! Finally, we'll dive into editing your photos and videos in the Photos and iMovie apps on your iPhone. Caroline's classes are always popular, so be sure to sign up early!

Open Critique Returns!



3rd Monday of each month at 1:00 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 1:00 PM to help you with those nagging problems, make helpful suggestions or just provide a different “set of eyeballs,” perspectives.

You'll be sure to benefit from this experience 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 at sarahsod911@gmail.com.

Upcoming Exhibits



July 2023 ~Small Works Exhibit

It's time once more for the ever-popular Small Works exhibit in July. This is the perfect show for tiny - or at least, petite - masterpieces. No theme or subject matter is suggested, so create as you like. But please limit your 2-dimensional works to 154 square inches (equivalent to 11"x14"). Three-dimensional works should follow roughly the same guideline: no more than 14" high and 11" wide and deep.

Receiving: Monday, June 26, 10 AM - 12 PM
Exhibit Dates: June 27 to July 29
Reception: Friday, July 7, 5-7 PM

Cottage Garden, punchneedle fiber art by Cheryl Mihills

July 2023 ~ Coastal Living

Capture the beauty of the coast in your art for this July exhibit! What lets you know that you are in the River Realm? Is it the scenery? The food? Maybe the hammock out back with a view of the water? Celebrate the coast and all it has to offer!

Receiving: Monday, June 26, 10 AM - 12 PM
Exhibit Dates: June 27 to July 29
Reception: Friday, July 7, 5-7 PM

Tangier Marsh, oil by Karen Williams



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



2023 Exhibits & Special Events

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)



JUNE Gallery Windows



This June, the art in the windows at RAL Art Center will dazzle with vibrant colors and sparkling light, showcasing the artworks of **Gloria Clifford**, **Bob Casazza**, and **Laurie Breakwell**.

Using a bright color palette, **Gloria Clifford** shares her love of nature as an artist by using several different mediums. She paints in watercolors, oils, acrylics, and, recently, oil and cold wax. One painting featured within this series for our June windows is an original acrylic of a photo-realistic *Blue Crab*. Gloria comments, "My greatest goal . . . continues to be through art, to create a passion within others to protect our planet. By use of an array of brilliant rainbow colors, I share the beauty of this planet with all who will open their heart to it."

Like Gloria Clifford, **Bob Casazza** incorporates vivid colors in his palette. Art and design have always been a part of Bob Casazza's life. He was a cartoonist for his college newspaper, an animator, illustrator, graphic artist, and art director. Many people describe his work as Pop Art but his work is still evolving. "I strive to create something different in my subjects using a variety of mediums and techniques. I'm still experimenting and that excites me," Bob says. "*Today's Catch* is one of his newest pieces featured in the windows."

Finally, **Laurie Breakwell's** window display includes sparkling, colorful glass works, such as the fused glass piece, *Drum Solo*. Although always fascinated by art glass, starting with the gift of a glass paperweight at the age of eleven, it wasn't until 2018 that she started producing any of her own. Moving to Kilmarnock from the Florida Keys in 2015, it was a class in glass-on-glass mosaics through RAL, taught by Sukey Starkey, that brought her, in a roundabout way, to purchase a small kiln and some glass to try her hand at fusing.

Be sure that you don't miss this highly colorful windows display!

Top left: *Blue Crabby* Gloria Clifford; Bottom left: Bob Casazza's *Today's Catch*; Right: *Drum Solo* by Laurie Breakwell

Community Outreach

Summer Youth Art Camp 2023

This summer, RAL Art Center will offer 9 weeks of themed art camp sessions for children of elementary and middle school age. The first week is June 12-16; camp sessions continue through August 7-11. There will also be a 3-day session, Wednesday through Friday July 5-7.



Themes are all new and include Groovy Art, Superhero Cartooning, Patterns Galore, Wild and Wacky Weaving, plus many more. Projects are age-appropriate and range from designing album covers to weaving on found objects to creating a mosaic peace sign and original superheroes.

Morning sessions will run from 9:30 to 12:30, Monday through Friday, for rising 1st through rising 5th graders; afternoon sessions will be from 1:00 to 4:00 for rising 6th through rising 9th graders. The cost for members is \$110 per week; the non-member price is \$126 per week. Register online or at the gallery.



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:
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 byral@ralartcenter.compowered by



Try email marketing for free today!