



Newsletter



Art is for everyone!

MANSION HOUSE ART CENTER & GALLERY

Gallery: (301)797-2867

480 Highland Avenue (City Park), Hagerstown, MD 21740

Hours: Friday & Saturdays, 11am-4pm

Sundays, 1pm-5pm

Website: www.valleyartassoc.org

Email: valleyartinfo@gmail.com

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/ValleyArtAssociation.Hagerstown.Md)

[ValleyArtAssociation.](http://www.facebook.com/ValleyArtAssociation.Hagerstown.Md)

[Hagerstown.Md](http://www.facebook.com/ValleyArtAssociation.Hagerstown.Md)

March/April 2026



President's Message

Greetings Valley Art Members!

As we move into March and April, I'm reminded how this season always brings a sense of renewal. The light lingers a little longer, the colors around us begin to shift, and creativity seems to stretch awake after winter's quiet. It's a beautiful time to reflect on what we've accomplished together — and to look ahead at what's beginning to bloom within the Valley Art Association.

Our members continue to be the heart of this organization. Whether you've volunteered at an event, shared your artwork, attended a workshop, or simply encouraged another artist, your presence strengthens our community. Every act of participation — big or small — helps us grow. Thank you for showing up with such generosity and enthusiasm.

This spring, we're focusing on expanding opportunities for artists of all ages and abilities. We're exploring new partnerships, planning fresh programming, and continuing our mission to bring art into the lives of those who need it most. Your ideas and involvement make this possible, so let's get our creative minds thinking and sharing those thoughts with each other.

As we look ahead, I also want to highlight an important moment in our yearly cycle: elections for next year's Board of Directors. Serving on the board is a meaningful way to help shape the future of our association, support our members, and guide the programs that keep our creative community thriving.

If you feel called to contribute your time, leadership, or perspective, I encourage you to consider running or nominating someone who embodies our spirit of collaboration and growth. More details will be shared soon, and we hope to see a strong participation color that keeps catching your eye, or a project that's been waiting patiently for your attention. Creativity blossoms when we nurture it, and this community is a wonderful place to grow.

Thank you for being part of the Valley Art Association. I'm excited for the months ahead and all the art, connection, and possibility they will bring.

Donna Crow
President, Valley Art Association

Dates to Remember

March 9, 5:30 pm - Board Meeting (Zoom)
March 19, 8:30 am - 3 pm - Mansion House Cleaning
March 25, 7:00 pm - General Meeting - Amy Lindenerger Colored Pencil demonstration
April 13, 5:30 pm - Board Meeting (Zoom)
April 22, 7:00 pm - General Meeting - Nomination of Officers, Donna Crow's demonstration

VAA Member News

Chamber of Commerce: Valley Art has partnered with the Chamber of Commerce, 1 S. Potomac Street, Hagerstown, MD, to display 2-dimensional art, for one year from February 2026 through January 2027. This is a great opportunity for local businesses to see our artwork. In addition, people can view the artwork Monday - Friday from 9 am to 5 pm. Six VAA members have already signed up for the 2-month periods this year. (See Chamber of Commerce Exhibitors in Upcoming Member Activities below). The exhibiting artist is asked to make a 5-8 minute presentation at one of the Coffee & Connections events during the 2-month period. The Chamber waived the exhibition fee to VAA for the current year. So, Valley Art will have to decide if this venture is successful enough to pay the exhibition fee for the following year. Check <https://business.hagerstown.org/events> for events happening at the Chamber.

The February/March exhibitor is Carol Wilks (who is also VAA's Chamber representative). In addition to meeting business people at the Coffee & Connections event, she had a reception on Friday, February 20th. Here's a picture of Amelie Lavenant-Wink, Carol and Donna Crow after they hung the paintings in the Training Room.



Nominations for VAA Board Members: We'll be taking nominations for Board members at the April 22, 2026, 7 pm General meeting. The elections of the nominees to the Board will take place at the May 27, 2026 General meeting. Newly elected Board members will take office on July 1, 2026 and their terms will end on June 30, 2027. Those members who are interested in a Board position should notify the VAA Nomination Committee (Roy Tressler or Hal Mason), or they may nominate themselves at the April or May meeting prior to the elections taking place. For questions about these Board positions, please talk to Roy or Hal, or to a Board member.

Note to all Members: As some of you may have heard, Julie Gottlieb has decided, at this time, to step down from her post as Social Committee Chair in order to pursue other interests. She will continue to help with special events, VAA activities, and the Cafe Roma art program. She will remain in her post until June. We are actively looking for someone interested in taking over that role. If you would like to learn more about the Social Chair's responsibilities, please contact Julie Gottlieb at 240-707-6271(h).

Cleaning of the Mansion House: IMPORTANT INFO FOR ALL GALLERY MEMBERS!
W.I.L.E.S. Commercial Cleaning will clean the Mansion House on Thursday March 19, 2026 from 8:30 am to 3 pm. The 1st and 2nd floors will be cleaned, including the kitchen, bathrooms areas, stairs and downstairs carpets. (The carpets will be cleaned with a dry extraction process so they can be walked on immediately afterwards). The cleaning staff will be told not to touch or move any of the artwork.

Therefore, any artwork that is located in front of windows, or is located on (or in) furniture that is sitting on top of the carpets will have to be moved just prior to the cleaning date. Please contact Denise Ruby, gallery director: denise7231@aol.com/text/call 240-818-7547 as you have to make arrangements to move your artwork. **Any applicable spaces that are not open for cleaning will not be cleaned: upstairs or downstairs.** Contact Donna Mason for further questions or comments: donnamasonart@myactv.net/call/text 301-491-2899.

“Picking Up the Pieces,” an article on Family Quilts, written by VAA member Rosanna Hoverman, has been published in the March issue of *American Quilters Society* magazine.

Submissions for Newsletter: If you have news you would like to include in the Newsletter, please send it to the email address: valleyartinfo@gmail.com with the subject **Newsletter**.

Social Committee: Volunteers are being recruited to help with meetings, planning and setting up special events, etc. Contact Julie Gottlieb at 240-707-6271(h) or email julgot6@gmail.com.

Workshops Committee: To assist artists who want to set up workshops, contact Elaine Wolfe or Denise Ruby.

Upcoming Member Activities

FY26 General Meeting Program Schedule

March 25, 2026, Amy Lindenberger - Colored Pencil Solvents demonstration

April 22, 2026, VAA member Donna Crow - Demonstration

May 27, 2026, VAA member Lynn Ferris - Watercolor Painting demonstration

North Gallery Exhibits and Sales

Month	Exhibition Title	Drop Off Dates (Sunday/Tuesday)	Opening Date(Friday)	Closing Date (Sunday)	Pickup Dates (Sunday/Tuesday)
March 2026	<i>7 Elements of Art: Line, Space, Shape, Form, Value, Color, Texture</i>	Mar 1, 3	March 6	March 29	Mar 29, 31
April 2026	<i>In My Garden</i>	Mar 29, 31	April 3	April 26	Apr 26, 28
May 2026	<i>Amanda Taylor's students' artwork. Art Enabled: A Creative Chance Showcase. Reception date TBD</i>	Apr 26, 28	May 1	May 24	May 24, 26
June 2026	<i>Inspired by Nature</i>	May 24, 26	May 29	June 28	Jun 28, 30
July 2026	<i>Outside My Window</i>	Jun 28, 30	July 3	July 26	Jul 26, 28
August 2026	<i>Art In Nature</i>	Jul 26, 28	July 31	August 30	Aug 30, Sep 1
	<i>Founders Day Reception: August 1st or 2nd - TBD</i>				
September 2026	<i>Chasing Light & Shadow (Plein Air Artists & VAA Member show)</i>	Aug 30, Sep 1	Sep 4	Sep 27	Sep 27, 29
October 2026	<i>It's Fall Again</i>	Sep 27, 29	October 2	October 25	Oct 25, 27
November 2026	<i>Wonderful World</i>	Oct 25, 27	October 30	Nov 29	Nov 29, Dec 1
Dec '26-Jan '27	<i>What's Your Favorite Color</i>	Nov 29, Dec 1	December 4	Jan 24, 2027	Jan 24, 26

Art in the Hallway at Meritus Healthcare Center Exhibitors

March 2026	Jennie Avila	September 2026	Lori Bell
April 2026	Laura Shindle	October 2026	Chris Shingler
May 2026	Gwen and Larry Bergey	November 2026	Amanda Taylor
June 2026	Dianna Basile	December 2026	Amelie Lavenant-Wink
July 2026	Tarah Reynolds	January 2027	
August 2026	Nicole Abuhamada	February 2027	

Chamber of Commerce Exhibitors

Feb/March 2026	Carol Wilks	Aug/Sept 2026	Nicole Troup
April/May 2026	John Mullican	Oct/Nov 2026	Cathie McCormick
June/July 2026	Elaine Cooper	Dec 2026/Jan 2027	Trish Suder

Figure Drawing at the Mansion House

Mondays from 10 am to 1 pm in March and April, 2026, plus one 10 am to 2:30 pm session on Monday, March 23 and one 10 am - 3:30 pm session on Monday, April 6. Open studio, uninstructed, figure drawing sessions with professional models.

CONTACT: Elaine Wolfe valleyartinfo@gmail.com / 304-261-9583 no text.

COST: Participants share the Professional Model's fee.

Drop in okay but pre-registration is helpful.

Workshops and Classes at the Mansion House - 2026

Lesa Cook - Low Relief Sculpture Workshop

Thursday, March 12, 2026, 10:30 am - 4:00 pm

CONTACT: Elaine Wolfe valleyartinfo@gmail.com/304-261-9583 (no text).

FEE: \$70 for VAA and Museum members, \$75 non-members, plus clay supply fee (clay supplied by instructor) \$20. Sculpture stands and sculpting tools loaned by the instructor for the workshop.

Half-hour lunch break (lunch is included in the workshop fee).

PAYMENT: By check or credit card: via Venmo @ Melissa Avera-Cook, or check made out to Lesa Cook, to be mailed or dropped off to the Mansion House Art Gallery, Attn. Elaine Wolfe.

Minimum 6 artists /Maximum 12

Michael Timothy Davis - Twelve Hours: Two Day Oil Painting Portrait Workshop

Thursday - Friday, March 26 - 27, 2026, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

CONTACT: Elaine Wolfe valleyartinfo@gmail.com/304-261-9583 (no text).

FEE: \$170 for total of two six hour days

Half-hour lunch break (lunch included in workshop fee)

PAYMENT: Check made out to Michael Davis: mail/drop off to Mansion House, Attn. Elaine Wolfe.

MODEL FEE: to be shared among artists on the day of the workshop.

Minimum 6 artists /Maximum 10

Amanda Taylor - "Creative Chance April Workshops for All Abilities"

Thursdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026, 10 am - 12 pm

Create art using watercolor, acrylic and photography, and connect with local artists.

CONTACT: Amanda Taylor 240-338-8099/amanda.creativechancebaltimore@gmail.com

FEE: \$80 for all 4 sessions. Materials included. Caregivers/supporters are welcome free of charge.

Deadline to apply March 31, 2026.

Minimum 5 artists / Maximum 20

LiiLii Seniura - "Modern Still Life"

Friday, April 10, 10 am - 4 pm

A comprehensive one day course in design and composition of "The Modern Still Life - Thinking outside the Table".

CONTACT: LiiLii Seniura via email liliifish.llc@gmail.com

FEE: \$80 for VAA and Museum members and \$95 for non-members

PAYMENT: By check or credit card: Venmo@liliifish or Zelle 410-412-0048 or make check out to LiiLii Seniura and mail/drop off to Mansion House Art Gallery, Attn.: LiiLii Seniura.

NOTE: there will be a follow-up workshop, fees, etc., as described above,

Friday, May 8, 2026, 10 am - 4 pm, covering different materials, concepts and setups.

Minimum 2 artists / Maximum 8

Amy Lindenberger - "Basic Botanical in Colored Pencil"

Thursday, May 7, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Techniques for start-to-finish botanicals with colored pencil, including underpainting grisaille or complement, use of wax resist, and smooth color gradations for maximum depth.

CONTACT: Elaine Wolfe valleyartinfo@gmail.com/304-261-9583 (no text) OR DURING APRIL 10 - 30, CONTACT Denise Ruby at denise7231@aol.com or text or call her at 240-818-7547.

FEE: \$75 for VAA/Museum members and \$85 for non-members. Lunch included in the workshop fee.

PAYMENT: By check payable to Amy Lindenberger, mail/drop off: Mansion House, Attn: Elaine Wolfe.

DEADLINE: The deadline for registration is April 27, 2026.

Minimum 7 artists / Maximum is 12

Lynn Ferris - 2026 Watercolor Classes

Thursdays, July 9 - August 13, 2026, from 9 am to noon

Six weekly watercolor classes. To register, contact Lynn directly at ferrislynn@yahoo.com.

Information on her 2026 exhibitions and workshops is on her website: waiting list only.

<https://www.lynnferris.com>

Further workshops with Hans Guerin (figure-drawing), Pam Wenger (watercolor portrait) and Lesa Cook (sculpture with live model) are in the planning stages. Information will be provided when finalized.

Please contact Denise Ruby at denise7231@aol.com/240-818-7547 or Elaine Wolfe at ecwolfe@frontier.com/304-261-9583 (no text) with any requests.

Off-site Workshops and Classes

David Bottini - Art History Appreciation (Impressionism)

3-part, 75 minutes per session class, looking at transition of art into Impressionism and Post-Impressionism styles. Lecture, discussion, with many images. No supplies needed.

Tuesdays, March 10, 17, 24, from 1 pm - 2:15 pm at Howard's Art & Frames, 1256 Dual Highway, Hagerstown.

Registration fee \$25 (applied to cost of class on first day).

Cost \$50. Go to howardsarts.com, call 301-733-2722, or email howardsarts@aol.com.

David Bottini - Step-by-Step into Painting

3-part, 75 minutes per session class, wanting to try to paint? Learn to create, step-by-step, a monochromatic foundation (grisaille technique) a landscape painting on canvas panel.

Most supplies will be provided. Wednesdays, March 11, 18, 25, 2 pm - 4:00 pm, Howard's

Registration fee \$25 (applied to cost of class on first day). Cost \$95. Go to howardsarts.com, call 301-733-2722, or email howardsarts@aol.com.

A Series of ART, EAT & DRINK Classes by VAA members Erin Nelson, Donna Crow, Julie Gottlieb and Sandi Povinale at Café Roma Ristorante, 14224 Pennsylvania Avenue, Hagerstown, MD
CONTACT: Julie Gottlieb julgot6@gmail.com/240-707-6271(h) (no text).

Saturday, March 7, 2026, 12:00 - 3:00 pm, Paint like a Ross with Certified Ross Instructor Erin Nelson
“Sunset Aglow”, promo code available for VAA members (Cash, Check, Online registration:

Evenbrite-EKAD Studio

Saturday, March 14, 2026, 1:00 - 4:00 pm, Paper Quilling Class with Donna Crow, \$45 per person

Friday, March 27, 2026, 6:00 - 9:00 pm, Gel Painting Print Class with Donna Crow, \$45 per person

Saturday, April 18, 2026, 1:00 - 4:00 pm, Mother’s Day themed Multi-purpose (Die cut cards, Quilling, birds & flowers) Bring your bestie or family member! \$45 per person.

Saturday, May 2, 2026, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm, Cherry Blossom themed Watercolor Class with Sandi Povinale.

These are not VAA sponsored classes.

Business of Art Conference

Chambersburg’s artists’ co-op, The Foundry Art Market, will present its second Business of Art conference on Saturday April 25 at the Franklin County Visitors Bureau, 15 South Main Street in Chambersburg. Registration includes continental breakfast and lunch and your choice of 3 options for each of 3 Breakout sessions, and keynote speaker Sarah Merritt of PA Creative Industries. Cost: \$35 if received by March 31 or \$45 if received after April 1. Register online at foundryartmarket.com for a day of networking, inspiration and practical & useful knowledge. Breakout sessions will include Navigating the Threats of AI, Social Media Starter Pack, Presenting & Promoting your Art, the Nitty Gritty Business of Art, Get Framed-Howard’s Art & Frames, the Healing Power of Art and Overcoming Creative Blocks.

Washington County Museum of Fine Arts Classes wcmfa.org/learn/classes/

Calls for Entry to Juried Shows

Schuler School of Fine Arts: “Juried Flora and Fauna Show” Landscapes, Flowers, Still-lifes, Animal Portraits - Any original painting, drawing, sculpture. Digital entries due by April 2, 2026. Enter on website schulerschool.com or email schulershow@gmail.com.

The Delaplaine 2026 National Juried Exhibition All media, created within the past 2 years, 1 - 3 artworks with entry fee \$35, with juror, Kyle Hackett. Entry deadline March 22, with show May 2 to July 12. For details, go to the website at delaplaine.org, or contact Corey Frey at cfrey@delaplaine.org or call 301-698-0656 ext. 108.

National Oil and Acrylic Painters' Society (NOAPS): "The 2026 Spring International Online Exhibition" Open to members and non-members, entries via ShowSubmit with deadline April 6, and show from May 25 - July 25. \$30 for 1 work, \$10 each additional, up to 5 artworks, completed within the last 3 years. The juror is Yan Sun (yansun.us). For details, visit the website noaps.org or email contact@noaps.org.

Adams County Arts Council: "22nd Annual Juried Exhibition" At the Wolf House, United Lutheran Seminary Campus in Gettysburg, with opening reception on June 5, through June 27 with an entry deadline of March 20: entry fee \$30 ACAC members/\$45 non-members. Enter 1 - 3 artworks completed within the last 3 years. The juror is Philip Lindsey. For details or questions: website <http://www.adamsarts.org>, email aa@adamsarts.org or call 717-334-5006.

Call for Artists

Program available for VAA members to display and sell their artwork: Are You Aware that the VAA is in partnership with Cafe Roma Ristorante, 14224 Pennsylvania Ave., Hagerstown, Md. 21742 AND we have an artists program that allows VAA artists to display their artwork in the restaurant to sell? We have an average of 30 artists who participate on a rotating basis. If you would like to display your artwork there & need additional information on the program, please do not hesitate to call Rick or Julie Gottlieb, 240-707-6271 (h).

Exhibitions

Homewood Living, Williamsport, MD will be having its third annual “Art for Life” exhibition on Saturday, March 21, 2026. Works of art by Homewood residents, including VAA member Rosanna Hoverman, will be on display from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. There will be a guest speaker, and refreshments will be served. (Community Center building, 16505 Virginia Avenue, Williamsport, MD)

Gallery 50, Waynesboro, PA artsalliancegw.org “Faces and Places,” through April 18, 2026
10 Artists exhibiting: Joan Carroll, Jonathan Frazier, Paul Gallo, Katrina Hoopes, Eric Hyne, Penny Knoble-Besa, Melissa Libertini, Laura McKelvie, Paula Saneaux and Steve Wetzel.

Washington County Museum of Fine Arts wcmfa.org “Cumberland Valley Artists Exhibition” through April 26, honors America's semi-quincentennial with 60 artists' paintings, photographs, prints and sculptures. “The Scandinavian Home,” an exhibition organized by The Frick Pittsburgh, features art and design of Scandinavian culture 1880-1920, through May 17.

Washington County Arts Council www.washingtoncountyarts.com

January - March 2026 - Eileen Berger of Just Lookin' Gallery: “The Past Is Always Present”

April - May 2026 - Potomac River Artists Guild: Line, Shape, Color and Form

Message from our Historian, Roy Tressler

Thank you for your continuing contributions to the VAA archival scrapbooks. Please leave any art-related information and other appropriate materials at the Mansion House desk. Place your name on any information you share. The scrapbooks will be on display at selected VAA events.

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