



## Newsletter

**Art is for everyone!**

### MANSION HOUSE ART CENTER & GALLERY

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

Hours: Friday & Saturdays, 11 am-4pm; Sundays, 1-5 pm

[www.valleyartassoc.org](http://www.valleyartassoc.org)

President's Ofc: (301) 791-6719

Gallery: (301) 797-2867

### Events Upcoming

Some important upcoming dates to remember: See inside for details

February 23 1-5pm.....

February Exhibit closing.  
Members pick-up artwork from Feb Exhibit and drop off artwork for **MARCH Exhibit: "Art in the Wild"**

**Wednesday February 26,**  
6pm General meeting  
Mansion House & on Zoom.  
Featured artist: Roy Tressler & VAA Cabin Fever Social  
**February 28,** 11am-4pm  
March Members' Exhibit  
"Art in the Wild" opens at the Mansion House

**March 23,** 1-5pm Members pick-up artwork from March Exhibit & drop-off artwork for April Exhibit: "A Few of My Favorite Things"

**March 26, 6pm**  
General meeting Mansion House & on Zoom. Featured artist: Nicole Troupe

**March 28, 11am-4pm**  
April Members' Exhibit "A Few of My Favorite Things" Opens at the Mansion House

### President's Message

Happy New Year VAA members and art lovers! I hope everyone had nice holidays and are keeping warm and safe this winter! It's nice & warm in the Mansion House Art Center & Gallery here in City Park! So do come by to view and perhaps purchase some of the beautiful artwork by VAA members! And to participate in some of the wonderful art activities that are going on there! You can find out what the Mansion House, VAA and its members have to offer inside this newsletter. Please take time to read it, and contact a board member listed inside if you would like to get additional information. We look forward to seeing or hearing from you soon! In closing I have another quote for you today. This is for whether you are an artist already, or if you just aspire to be one!

*"Don't wait for inspiration. It comes while one is working"*

- Henri Matisse

Artfully yours,  
Donna Mason  
VAA President

### February 26, 2025

General Meeting 6pm at the Mansion House & on Zoom. Valley Art Association members & guests invited. Roy Tressler, VAA member and writer, will be the featured artist. Besides a short business meeting, Roy will be reading some of his humorous short stories about his growing up in Leitersburg Maryland.

The meeting will also be a social for VAA members & guests, with refreshments provided by VAA.

### March 26, 2025

General Meeting 6pm at the Mansion House & on Zoom. Valley Art Association members & guests invited. There will be a short business meeting. After which there will be refreshments provided by a VAA member. Then VAA member & artist, Nicole Troup, will be giving a demo and talk introducing her gilding techniques which she often incorporates into her own work using 24k gold leaf, silver leaf or composite gold. She will be drawing with pencil on paper & gold leaf.

### North Gallery Shows

*Check for exhibit dates and drop of and pick up dates:*

Just a reminder that you can bring in paintings for the February Show: **Birds, Bees, Butterflies and Blossoms**. The pickup dates (for Dec, Jan show) and drop off dates (for Feb show) are **Sunday, Jan 26 1-5 pm** and **Tues, Jan 28 10-11 am**.

### Artist at Cafe Roma

Cafe Roma on Pennsylvania Ave. in Hagerstown. There's a new Program available to VAA members to display their paintings, if interested. No Artist Commission! All Sales Will be handled through the VAA. ( So, VAA pays the sales tax.) For details on the Program and Requirements ie: contract, size of painting & limits, PLEASE CALL: Coordinators; Rick & Julie Gottlieb- H- 240-707-6271.

### Membership News

#### New Painting Session

- Wednesday Evening Paint Session at the Mansion House from 3:30pm to 7:00pm. (Dates and Times subject to change) VAA will now be offering a
- Session, very similar to the existing Tuesday and Wednesday morning groups, but offered later in the day specifically for those members who find themselves with
- scheduling conflicts due to work and other life commitments. We will be meeting inside until the weather
- warms up this Spring, when we can move to the picnic tables outside. Feel free to bring whatever projects you
- are working on, but be mindful to bring drop cloths if your art tends to be more on the messier side! (Please no
- aerosols or spray paints inside the gallery space)
- This session is open to all VAA Membership.
- Questions can be directed to Andy by email at: [stanicek.andrew@gmail.com](mailto:stanicek.andrew@gmail.com)

#### Annual Community Art Show: The Best Local Art of 2024

The juried "Annual Community Art Show: The Best Local Art of 2024" was held at the Washington County Arts Council from December 12, 2024 through January 5, 2025.

**Congratulations** to the following Valley Art Association members who participated in the show: Jennie Avila, Elaine Cooper, Donna Crow, Richard Gottlieb, Judy Melby-Robinson, John Mullican, Matthew Penrod, Sandra Polvinale, Lily Ramos-Burrows, Mary Ellen Robinson, Christopher Shingler, Trish Suder, Sara Swacina, Carol Wilks, Elaine Wolfe and Stephen Wright. Many congratulations!

#### FIGURE DRAWING

Open studio figure-drawing sessions are scheduled at the Mansion House Art Center and Gallery for the following dates in February - March. These uninstructed sessions are on MONDAYS, 10 am to 1 pm, and with two long day session (bring your own lunch) from 10 am to 3:30 pm. The dates for the sessions are February 3, 10, February 17 (long day), 24 and March 3, 10, 17 (long day), 24 and 31. Professional models, shared model fees only. Drop in O.K., but pre-registration encouraged. To register or if you have questions, contact Elaine Wolfe at [valleyartinfo@gmail.com](mailto:valleyartinfo@gmail.com) or call (no text) 304-261-9583.

## Members in the NEWS continued

At the Board Meeting on Monday, January 6th, it was brought up that some of the sale items in the gallery are not adequately labeled.

The problem is not with the artists who sell paintings as their artwork has titles.

Members who sell anything except paintings should tag their items with a number or some type of description that matches the item identifier on their consignment sheet. For example, Donna Mason might tag & list her items as DM1, DM2, etc. One board member said she tagged her cards with a code corresponding to the date she put her cards on the shelf for sale.

Also, apparently not all members are listing their items on a consignment sheet. All items should be listed. I've revised the sheets - one sheet for paintings (hung on the wall) and one for everything else. The one for cards, etc. has a column for the i.d. I plan to put the sheets in the inventory binder to replace the current ones. Copies are attached. If you see something that should be changed, please let me know. Thanks, Denise

### WASHINGTON COUNTY MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS PLANS 2026 CUMBERLAND VALLEY EXHIBITIONS AS PART OF AMERICA250 CELEBRATION

HAGERSTOWN, MD (January 3, 2025) – In honor of the semiquincentennial, or 250th anniversary of the U.S., the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts is planning its 2026 Cumberland Valley exhibitions around national themes. “A big part of our involvement in the national celebration will be our annual Cumberland Valley Artist show,” WCFMA executive director Sarah J. Hall announced, “and we’d like artists to think about their subject matter now. Instead of our usual show, where artists submit any work of their choosing,” she explained, “this exhibition will require submissions to be in line with four specific themes of national significance, some of which have been established by the American Association for State and Local History: Unfinished Revolutions, The Power of Place, Tell Everyone’s Story, and American Experiment.” Hall pointed out that while the formal call for submissions won’t be until spring and summer of this year, “We want to make sure artists have enough time to think about, plan and execute works that illuminate or are made in response to the themes selected because of the power of their meaning to our country.

The Cumberland Valley Artist 250th U.S. anniversary exhibition will run from November 8, 2025 to March 1, 2026.

The specific time period for submissions will be released at a later date, between May 1 and June 30, 2025

The Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, located on Hagerstown’s historic City Park lakeside, was established in 1931 by William H. Singer, Jr. and Anna Brugh Singer and has an extensive, world-class permanent collection of paintings, drawings, prints, and sculptures from the 18th century to the present, featuring celebrated and diverse artists. The Museum offers tours, classes, educational programs and community events and is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. Closed Mondays and major holidays. Admission is free and free parking is available. For more information: [wcmfa.org](http://wcmfa.org).

## Painting and Classes for VAA

### at The Mansion House

#### Donna Crow - Paper Quilling Basics Workshop 15, 2025...11:00 am to 3:00 pm

##### Workshop Details:

Basics of paper quilling, skills, tools and basic shapes. A project will be completed to take home. Materials will be provided for use, paper strips and glue provided for the project is included in price. There will be tools and kits provided to purchase to continue developing paper quilling skills. Advanced paper quilling classes will be announced in future to further your skills development.

Coffee, tea and bottles of water will be provided.

Please bring lunch or snacks if desired.

40.00 for members/ 50.00 for non-members..

CASH OR CHECK, receive a 20.00 (voucher) for those (non-members) who wish to join yearly membership at Valley Art Association. To register call or TEXT ALL CAPS

Donna Crow at 480-652-0555 text your NAME and PAPER QUILLING CLASS. Including your in your phone number.

Minimum #10...max 16

#### Andy Stanicek - Airbrush Workshop (proposed for May 17, 2025)

The artist Andy Stanicek is seeking to learn if there is sufficient interest among Valley Art Members to support his holding a one day workshop on the subject of how the airbrush may be incorporated as a tool in many art mediums.

Please contact Andy by email

at: stanicek.andrew@gmail.com to express your interest.

#### Lesla Cook - Two Day "Low Relief Sculpture" Workshop

Two-day workshop with sculptor and painter, Lesla Cook, instructor at the Delaplaine Art Center: students will create a low (bas) relief sculpture in water-based clay. The workshop will be held on **two consecutive Fridays, February 21 and 28** from 10:30 am – 4:30 pm each day. Included in the workshop fee is the use of sculpture stands and tools. Lunch is also included. Cost is \$150 for VAA and Museum members, \$165 for non-members.

The clay will be provided by the instructor for a \$20 supply fee. Minimum is 6. To register, please contact Elaine Wolfe

at [valleyartinfo@gmail.com](mailto:valleyartinfo@gmail.com) or call (no text) 304-261-9583.

#### Lynn Ferris - Watercolor Classes

Six weekly watercolor classes on Thursdays, July 10 through August 14, from 9 am to noon. To register, contact Lynn directly at [ferrislynn@yahoo.com](mailto:ferrislynn@yahoo.com). Information on her 2025 exhibitions and workshops is on her website <https://www.lynnferris.com>. These classes fill up quickly - to avoid disappointment, please register early.

## EXHIBITIONS

### Washington County Museum of Fine Arts Master

**Copyists** This special installation will feature the work of a number of regionally based artist who are officially “master copyists” with authorization to copy paintings in the National Gallery’s collection. Here, the copyists will show examples of their work, and also create some new copies based on our collection. **NOTE: LESA COOK IS ONE OF THESE COPYISTS.** Part of this exhibition will include painting demonstrations and an installation that evokes a traditional artist’s studio. This special installation has been organized by the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts in collaboration with the artists of the Master Copyists group and has been generously supported by Raymond James, Inc. For further information, please contact Donna Rastelli at 301-739-5727 or email [drastelli@wcmfa.org](mailto:drastelli@wcmfa.org). The Museum's website is [wcmfa.org](http://wcmfa.org); **the museum is now open from Tuesday- Sunday, 10 am - 5 pm.**

### Gallery 50

#### People and Places

A show of 10 artists' work, including Valley Art Association member, Nicole Troup will be on display at Gallery 50, 50 W. Main Street in Waynesboro from January 31 through April 26, 2025. Gallery hours are Friday from 5 - 8 pm and Saturday from 10:30 am to 4:30 pm. Check their Facebook page for additional hour or for more information, go to the Arts Alliance of Greater Waynesboro at [contact@artsalliancegw.org](mailto:contact@artsalliancegw.org)

### The Washington County Arts Council

#### The 15th Annual Washington County Art Educators

exhibit will be on display from February 6 through March 4, 2025, with reception being held on Thursday, February 6, from 5 - 7 pm, and virtually from February 8. From March 6 through April 1, in the Main Gallery there will be a solo show of artworks by Valley Art Association member, Sara Swacina: "Glimpses of Light in the Everyday" and in the Michael G. Callas Gallery will be "Artworks by Bruce Etchison", with the virtual showing from March 8. For further information, go their website [www.washingtoncountyarts.com/washingtongoespurple](http://www.washingtoncountyarts.com/washingtongoespurple). or contact Chris Brewer at 301-791-3132 or email [gallerymanager@washingtoncountyarts.com](mailto:gallerymanager@washingtoncountyarts.com).

## CALL FOR ENTRIES:

### Adams County Arts Council - 21st Annual Juried Exhibition

To be held at Wolf House, United Lutheran Seminary Campus in Gettysburg, from June 14 - 28, 2025, with awards ceremony and reception on June 14 from 5 - 7 pm. Entry deadline is March 21, with up to 3 artworks completed within the last 3 years. Over \$3,000 in awards. For details and entry form, go to the ACAC

website: <http://www.adamsarts.org> or email [aa@adamsarts.org](mailto:aa@adamsarts.org) or call 717-334-5006.

### 2025 National Juried Exhibition at the Delaplaine Arts Center

This annual show will run from May 3 through July 13, 2025. All media eligible, no size restrictions. The deadline for entry is March 23. Fee is \$35 for up to 3 images, \$25 for members. Over \$1,800 in awards. Entries are to be made through the Entry Thingy portal. For information, go to the Delaplaine website at [delaplaine.org/exhibitions/opportunities/nje](http://delaplaine.org/exhibitions/opportunities/nje) or call exhibitions manager, Corey Frey, at 301-698-0656 ext. 108.2025

### Spring Art At the Mill

The Clarke County Historical Association invites a variety of original 2-D and 3-D work for their spring juried show at the Burwell-Morgan Mill, Millwood, VA. All art must be for sale. Entries are to be made from February 10 through March 3, with notification March 10. The show runs from Saturday, April 26 through Sunday, May 11, 7 days per week. \$35 entry fee covers up to 5 entries.

Go to their website for details on registration and entry: [artatthemill.artcall.org](http://artatthemill.artcall.org) or email [artatthemill@gmail.com](mailto:artatthemill@gmail.com) or phone 540-837-1799.

## 2025 North Gallery Exhibits and Sales

Month	Exhibition Title	Drop Off Dates	Opening Date	Closing Date	Pickup Dates
February 2025	Birds, Bees, Butterflies and Blossoms	Jan 26, 28	January 31	February 23	Feb 23, 25
March 2025	Art In the Wild	Feb 23, 25	February 28	March 23	Mar 23, 25
April 2025	A Few of My Favorite Things	Mar 23, 25	March 28	April 27	Apr 27, 29
May 2025	Fluffy & Fantastic	Apr 27, 29	May 2	May 25	May 25, 27
June 2025	Follow the Sun	May 25, 27	May 30	June 22	Jun 22, 24
July 2025	Reflection	Jun 22, 24	June 27	July 27	Jul 27, 29
August 2025	Just Trippin'	Jul 27, 29	August 1	August 24	Aug 24, 26
September 2025	It's Fall Again	Aug 24, 26	August 29	September 28	Sep 28, 30
October 2025	Seasons of the Witch	Sep 28, 30	October 3	October 26	Oct 26, 28
November 2025	It's a Colorful World	Oct 26, 28	October 31	November 23	Nov 23, 25
December 2025	A Creative Celebration	Nov 23, 25	November 28	Jan 25, 2026	Jan 25, 27
<b>Drop Off &amp; P-U Times:</b>		<b>Sundays 1 - 5 pm</b>		<b>Tuesdays 10 - 11 am</b>	

If you have a wish list for classes or workshops, or if you can participate in coordinating and/or assisting in workshops, please contact Elaine Wolfe at [valleyartinfo@gmail.com](mailto:valleyartinfo@gmail.com) or call Denise Ruby at [denise7231@aol.com](mailto:denise7231@aol.com). They would be very glad to have your assistance.

### VAA Member News

VAA MEMBER NEWS For those members who sell at the Mansion House Art Center and Gallery, there have been some changes made already, and some changes to be made in the new Fiscal Year, beginning July 1, 2024. If you have not heard about these changes, please contact Denise Ruby, Hal Mason, or Donna Mason.

VAA has a system in place for reaching out and inviting prospective members. If you know of someone who is an artist or is interested in the arts, please send his/her name and email address to our membership chair, Denise Ruby at: [denise7231@aol.com](mailto:denise7231@aol.com).

President	Donna Mason	301-491-2899	donnamasonart@myactv.net
President Elect	Phil Elia	954-661-7412	yekpersianone@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Hal Mason	301-491-2894	halmasonart@myactv.net
Assistant Treasurer	Keith Jones	304-283-5734	KKingotu@yahoo.com
Corresponding Secretary	Carol Wilks	240-818-3851	cawilks44@gmail.com
Recording Secretary	Jen Martin	410-746-9843	jenmartin72@outlook.com
Gallery Director	Denise Ruby	240-818-7547	denise7231@aol.com
Apprentice Gallery Director	Maria Holloway	240-217-2094	mholloway72@gmail.com

**VAA Committees & Board Advisors****Membership Committee:**Denise Ruby (240-818-7547) [denise7231@aol.com](mailto:denise7231@aol.com)**Social Committee:**

Carol Gwin  
Julie Gottlieb  
Gwen Bergey

**Newsletter:**Janie Moltrup - [janiemoltrup@gmail.com](mailto:janiemoltrup@gmail.com)**Publicity Committee:**Carol Wilks – [cawilks44@gmail.com](mailto:cawilks44@gmail.com)**Gallery Committee:**

Denise Ruby (240-818-7547) [denise7231@aol.com](mailto:denise7231@aol.com)  
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Pattie Boyst  
Terry Brown  
Chris Shingler

**Merit Art In The Hallway Committee:**

Charlotte Loveless – [charlove288@gmail.com](mailto:charlove288@gmail.com)  
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**Classes & Workshops:**

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**Facebook Committee:**

Jen Martin – FB Editor - [jenmartin72@outlook.com](mailto:jenmartin72@outlook.com)  
Janie Moltrup – FB Administrator  
John Mullican – FB Administrator  
Sue Parker – FB Editor  
Carol Wilks – FB Editor

**Technology Committee:**

Hal Mason  
Sue Parker  
Keith Jones  
Jen Martin  
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Janie Moltrup  
John Mullican

**Website Committee:**Sue Parker – [scp2art@gmail.com](mailto:scp2art@gmail.com)**VAA Historian:**Roy Tressler (240-217-3022) [roytressler@comcast.net](mailto:roytressler@comcast.net)**Maintenance Committee:**

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Mike Dawson  
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Marjorie Tressler  
Jenny Angle