

MAY 2026



NEWSLETTER

YOUR SOURCE FOR ALL THINGS LAKE OF THE WOODS ARTS

Help Us Solve the Mystery



LOW Arts is having a contest!
Put your imagination to work and tell us what took place in the pictures at left, either original writing or even a visual addition to the story.

Did he throw the gun in the lake?
What did they throw over the bridge?
Think Bobbie Gentry's haunting "Ode to Billy Joe."



The photos at left are LOW artist **Edward Murray's** version of a film noir/murder mystery.

Film noir, French for "dark film," refers to a cinematic style and genre of Hollywood crime dramas, primarily from the 1940s–50s, characterized by cynical attitudes, dark/atmospheric lighting (chiaroscuro), and moral ambiguity. It centers on detectives or ordinary people entangled in crime, featuring femme fatales and fatalistic storylines.



The prize is a **\$25 gift certificate to Fareways Cafe**. Please email entries by June 10, 2026 to Low.arts.va@gmail.com. The contest is open to all newsletter readers, LOW Arts members or not.

Artist in the Spotlight



For our June 1st meeting, the Artist in the Spotlight will be **Toni Maltagliati**. She will tell us how newspaper-page design principals saved her career and fed her soul.

We always welcome guests and new members - artists and art lovers, alike!

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

Intro to Yupo Paper

June 4, 2026
Lower Level Clubhouse
1 pm to 4 pm

Weekly LOW Arts workshop
at Creative Gatherings
cancelled
June 4, 2026

Zentangle Workshop

June 11 at 1 pm
Creative Gatherings Studio

UPCOMING MEETINGS

General Meeting

June 1, 2026 at 10 am
Critique 9:30 am
Community Center, Room 2

Special Events Committee

June 8, 2026 at 2 pm
Community Center, Room 1

Show Meeting

June 26, 2026 at 10 am
Community Center

Click drawing at right to see a complete calendar of events and deadline dates.



www.lakeofthewoodsarts.com

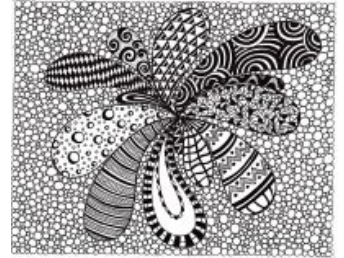
Fun for LOW Arts Members



LOW Arts is sponsoring an Intro to Yupo Paper workshop, led by **Karen Falcon** for members on Thursday, June 4, 2026, at 1 pm, in the Lower Level of the Clubhouse.

Yupo paper is a non-absorbent plastic paper with, of course, properties unlike wood pulp or linen-derived surfaces. Attendees will be introduced to this paper through the use of acrylic inks, to create abstract flowers. It will be both fun and relaxing.

Are you familiar with Zentangle? It is both art form and a meditative exercise. LOW Arts is holding an Intro to Zentangles workshop, led by **Marilyn Davis**, for members at Creative Gatherings on June 11, 2026, at 1 pm. The cost is \$7 for materials and \$5 per person for use of the studio. The class is limited to 10 participants. Sign up [here](#).



Our Busy Members



These photos are from the gel printing workshop for LOW Arts members, held at Creative Gatherings on May, 7, 2026. Judging by the smiles, it was fun as well as instructional.



C. Rappoport, *Summer Fiesta*

Christy Rappoport, who has branched out from fabric art to abstract painting, has had two works juried into the Fredericksburg Center for Creative Arts' (FCCA) June "Artist Choice" show. The exhibition runs from May 30, 2026 through June 26, 2026. Congratulations, Christy!



C. Rappoport, *One Blew Out*



Brown, *Grateful to work another day*

Pete Brown will have a month-long solo show at the FCCA during July 2026. The show is titled, "Painting on the Edge of Reality." Opening night of Pete's show will be July 3, 2026, which will also be First Friday in Fredericksburg. The painting at left will be part of Pete's July show.

We can't wait to see your beautiful art, Pete!

"What I am after, above all, is expression." - Henri Matisse

Our Busy Members. cont'd.



Hillis, *Getting My Ducks in a Row*

Catherine Hillis was selected for the online 2026 Richeson75 International Still Life & Floral competition for her painting *Getting My Ducks in a Row*.

Hillis also won the Morris Watercolor Guild Award of Merit for her painting, *Freefalling*, at the Transparent Watercolor Society of America's Annual Exhibition at the Kenosha Public Museum, in Wisconsin. She'll also receive her signature membership.

Congratulations, Catherine!



Hillis, *Freefalling 2*

“People’s Choice” ribbons were awarded at the May 15, 2026 Fareways Cafe Reception. Photos of the artworks and happy artists are shown below.



Karen Espinoza and her first place painting



Karen O'Donnell and her second place photo



Mariana Concha's third place painting



Peggy Shull has shared photos of some of her recent works and, wow, Peggy, how captivating they are. The colors! The shapes! Even the frames!

Readers, be sure to enlarge this page to have a really good look at these mesmerizing paintings!



“Light is the most important person in the picture.” - Claude Monet

Around Town



There is a lot going on at the Arts Center in Orange. There are new hours, plus there are many items you may shop for online. There are art classes for adults and summer camps for children. There are even musical performances. Check it out at the website, by clicking on the logo at left.

America's State Parks is holding its 10th annual photo contest with a grand prize of \$10,000.

Visit stateparksphotocontest.org to review the official rules and submit your entries before the July 15, 2026 deadline. Once you've entered, don't forget to invite your friends and family to vote for their favorite shots!



VMFA

Now on view at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts is "India's Great Mughals: Art, Power, and Opulence."

"India's Great Mughals" includes 200 sumptuous objects—intricate paintings and manuscripts, lavish textiles, architectural elements, metalwork, furniture, arms and armor, dazzling precious stones, and more. Opulent works of art—many made in the imperial workshops—convey the power and tastes of the three most celebrated Mughal emperors.

The museum, in Richmond, is hosting related talks, dancing, and musical presentations in conjunction with this exhibition. Click [here](#) for information.



Click [here](#) to read the article, "The Relaxation of Regularly Listening to Songs or Drawing Pictures May Actually Slow Cellular Aging, New Research Shows." These types of activities may lower cortisol levels leading to slower aging of cells.

Making art is good for us! Go make some art!

Do you love the movie "Star Wars?" Can you name all the prequels and sequels? Do you know the complex and intertwined life stories of the characters? Click [here](#) to read the article, "12 Iconic Paintings Reimagined as Star Wars Scenes." If that is not enough for you, a second article combining classic art and "Star Wars" may be accessed [here](#).

