

NOVEMBER 2025



NEWSLETTER

YOUR SOURCE FOR ALL THINGS LAKE OF THE WOODS ARTS

What a show!

This year LOW Arts held its 41st Fall Art Show and Sale. Through the years the show has had many changes: the reception, the Giving Table, the raffle variety, the Silent Auction and the free art event. Our name has changed and, in fact, at first, there was just a show with no sales.

One constant has been the ongoing assistance to Orange County Public Schools (OCPS) art programs. Through specially designed projects, such as the Silent Auction (items donated by artists), Giving Table (also artist donations), and the 50/50 raffle, we are able to support the county's ten art programs with a gift of \$400 each. In addition \$750 was raised through the generosity of Bill Wares's donation of his late wife Sigrid's work to our sale. This will give the schools an additional \$75/classroom.

We also saved some space at the show for OCPS art students to display their art at our show -- always a favorite.

This was the first year we had a 50/50 raffle – and with the help of our supportive community, our lucky winner went home with almost \$2000! The remaining 50% went to OCPS art programs.

For the second year we offered a chance for show visitors to make art. This year Dawn Faulkner led 63 participants, ranging in age from 5 through adult, in the Zentangle art project.

We had over 50 artists, artisans, authors and woodworkers participate in the show selling, over 1,100 items.

December General Meeting

During the December meeting we will have our annual potluck brunch. Please bring dish to share -- sweet or savory, it doesn't matter. There is always a wonderful variety!

Also, Nan Lamb, Daria Bessom and Karen Falcon will be teaching simple paper flowers you may use to make your holiday (or anytime) gifts beautiful and unique.

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

After the show, we are all taking a well-deserved rest. There are no LOW Arts special events scheduled for December.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

December 1, 2025

General Membership Meeting
10 am, No critique

Community Center, Room 2

Please bring a brunch dish to share for our annual potluck. Label your plates and serving utensils please.

Plates, flatware, water and soda will be provided.

We'll also make easy paper flowers to use for gift decorations.



December 8, 2025

SEC Meeting

2 PM

Community Center, Room 1



Click above to see a complete calendar of events and deadline dates.

www.lakeofthewoodsarts.com

Our Busy Members



FCCA's December 2025-January 2026 juried show "Winter Blues" will show work by two LOW Arts members, Karen O'Donnell and Pete Brown. The exhibit dates are November 29, 2025 through January 30, 2026. Click on the FCCA logo for more information.



Brown, *Snow Day*



Brown, *Snow Melt*



O'Donnell, *Yellowstone Winter*



Hillis, *Feeding Frenzy*

We've heard some very good news from Catherine Hillis recently!

Catherine's painting *Feeding Frenzy* (left) was selected for the very competitive 'Liquid Commonwealth' Exhibit at the Muscarelle Museum in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Catherine also won an 'Award of Distinction' from the Virginia Watercolor Society for her painting *Freefalling* (right).



Hillis, *Freefalling*



LibertyTown Arts Workshop

Elena Pratt's latest piece, *Windy the Horse*, was accepted into Liberty Town Arts Center's 6x6 Regional Exhibit. The exhibit will be up until November 30th, 2025.

Dec 5, 6 & 7, 2025 Elena will be at the Fredericksburg Expo Center and the following weekend at the Dulles Expo Center for the Winter Capital Arts and Crafts Show.



Pratt, *Windy the Horse*

Note to readers: Please click on the Virginia Watercolor Society link above. You will not be disappointed! Also, you may enlarge this newsletter to get a better look at the artwork pictured.

"Finished" to a creative actually means, "I can't look at it anymore."- Unknown

Off Comes the Rust, On Goes the Paint Karen Falcon and Rick Rappoport Collaborate

A friend asked me about two months ago to creatively paint a hand saw. Although I have had some experience with wooden items, I have no experience working with metal. Removing rust, sanding metal, prepping metal for acrylic paint are “out of my wheelhouse.” I told my friend that unfortunately I could not help her, but I would keep an eye out for someone who could. While helping put the show program together I noticed Rick Rappoport works with wood and metal – and that’s how this began.



Rick provided the three pictures above and says, “Two are “before” and one is with the paint and rust stripped and the handled repaired and sanded. Unfortunately I didn’t take (one after I had) finished. The prep was 2 coats of stripper on the painted side, then steel wool and sanding. Two coats of WD-40, steel wool and sanding on the rusty side. It was painted with flat black Rustoleum, 2 coats. The handled needed glue and sanding, then refinished with Danish Oil. The brass was soaked in solvent for 24 hrs and then polished.”

So Rick did all the hard work, and I got to have fun (totally my perspective). My friend wanted a “Tranquility Base” lunar surface painted on the saw. Below is the finished saw.



Until Karen O'Donnell demonstrated her macro set-up for photography, many of us (me, especially) were unaware of how photographers create their art. *Audubon Magazine's* article, “[The 2025 Audubon Photography Awards: Winners](#)” is a fascinating look at how photographers managed to take the award winning pictures. The article also includes the judges’ opinions on what made the photos winners.

Have you finished your holiday shopping? Or have you even started? Either way, there are lots of places to find art-related gifts. Some beautiful, some fun, many would be unique gifts for the artist or art lover on your list. If you subscribe to museum newsletters, you’ll often get special sale notices or free shipping from time to time. Click on the links below to find something special for ~~me~~, rather, the art lover in your house.

[National Gallery of Art](#)

[Metropolitan Museum of Art](#)

[2025 FCCA Members’ Gallery Holiday Show](#)