

OCTOBER 2025



NEWSLETTER

YOUR SOURCE FOR ALL THINGS LAKE OF THE WOODS ARTS

It's Showtime!

LOW Arts artists are making last-minute preparations. It's all about the art and the SHOW! Picture Santa Claus during the week before Christmas or the Easter Bunny dyeing that last dozen eggs. No emails are being written, no phones answered. Click [here](#) to see some of the art ready for the show. Stained glass, painting, photography, jewelry, wooden items, pottery, hand-crafted cards, papier-mâché, fused glass and, of course, items from the Lake of the Wilderness Authors and the LOW Woodworkers.

The LOW Arts Fine Art Show and Sale will be held October 24th, 25th, and 26th 2025. Friday October 24th we will have our opening reception from 6-8 pm, during which time refreshments will be served - our way of celebrating our artists and patrons.

The Show will continue Saturday the 25th and Sunday the 26th from 10 am to 4 pm both days. There will be a free Zentangle art activity designed for children of all ages.

The Show's 50/50 raffle opportunity has been expanded this year. Tickets will be sold for \$5 each or 5 for \$20. The winning ticket will be drawn at the show on Sunday the 26th with the ticket holder receiving 50% of the proceeds. The remaining 50% of the proceeds will go to Orange County Public School Art Departments. The winner does not need to be present at the show to win.



See page 2 of this newsletter for information on our unique handmade Silent Auction items.

November General Meeting

November's meeting will include a debrief or discussion of the Fall Show. Members, please attend the meeting and give us your input on what went well and what didn't while it is still fresh in your mind.

Your input helps us to provide a better show for next year's exhibitors and visitors.

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

October 24, 2025

6 pm - 8 pm
Opening Reception
Fine Art Show and Sale
LOW Community Center

October 25 & 26, 2025

10 am - 4 pm
Fine Art Show and Sale
LOW Community Center

November 16, 2025

LOW Arts attends *White Christmas*
presented by the LOW Players

LOW Community Center, 2 pm

UPCOMING MEETINGS

November 3, 2025

General Membership Meeting
10 am, Critique 9:30 am
Community Center, Room 2

We will have a debrief of the Show.
Come with ideas on what worked and what didn't.

November 10, 2025

SEC Meeting



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

www.lakeofthewoodsarts.com

One-of-a-Kind Special Auction Artworks

Our artists have created exceptional works of art for the Silent Auction taking place during the show this year. All proceeds go to the Orange County Public Schools Art programs.

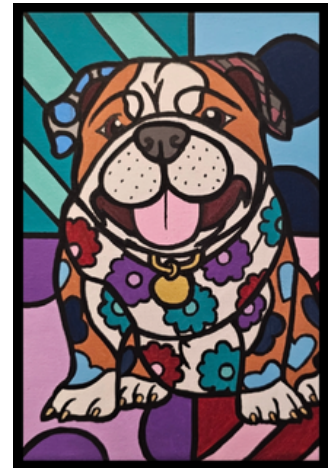


The Connoisseur's Collection (left)

A selection of artwork that will make your at-home bourbon-tasting event as special as the Frank August Small Batch Kentucky Straight Bourbon and cigars included in this set - donated by **Nate Smith**, LOW Woodworkers Club, **LOW Pottery, LLC**; and others

The Critter Canvas (example - right)

A custom 11 x 14 portrait of your pet created in the pop art style by **Elena Pratt**



Brushstrokes and Beverages (left)

Painting party for up to 6 people at nearby Creative Gatherings Studio (**Maribeth Logan**) with Asya Baldwin
Includes wine and nibbles

Items will be on display during all show hours and bidding will end at 3 pm on Sunday, October 26. A "buy it now" option will be available, for more than fair market value, if someone wants to secure an item before 3 pm on Sunday and is willing to pay more than fair market value. If so, that item will be taken out of the bidding.

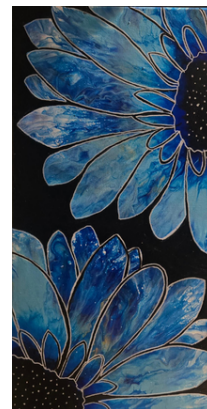
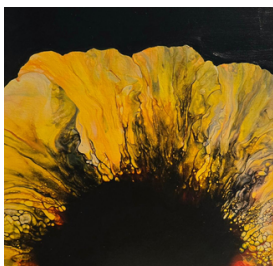
LOW Arts' own **Elena Pratt** will provide live music at our Friday night reception! What a treat! Maybe you've heard Elena at the Fareways Cafe or the Art Center in Orange at one of our events. Elena's voice and great repertoire will have us all smiling. Thanks, Elena, for being there to make the reception even more festive.

After the Reception let's all head over to Karaoke Idol at the Clearwater Grill where Elena has made it to the finals! Oh, and there is a cash prize. We are rooting for you, Elena!

What's New for the Show?

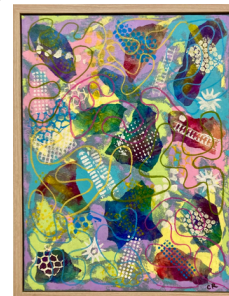
Karen Weingartner has tried something new with pouring paint.

"As an artist there are times you have to let the paint take you on a journey. These works are done by pouring specially mixed paints onto a prepared canvas. I pour paint in a specific pattern and then let it flow by moving air across the paint. Like the wind rippling water on a lake. The paint always takes me to beautiful places."



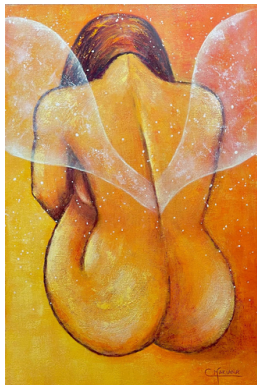
Fabric artist **Christie Rappoport** is also trying something new.

"Here are some photos of some of my mixed media and acrylic paintings that I'll be displaying at the show. I haven't given up on fiber art entirely, but I was very tired of it! I'm really enjoying the exploration and experimentation with abstract collaging, gel plates, and abstract expressionist painting. It's a bit of a leap, but the learning process is fun, challenging (and frustrating), but also often rewarding."



Eve DeVito creates fused glass art by using specially-manufactured glass that has been tested over decades to heat and cool at the same rate while retaining its consistently intended color. She creates her own designs for her bowls, platters, votives, landscape scenes, clocks and wall art etc., and fires them in a kiln at 1350-1500° for between 12 and 18 hours. She then shapes the glass into a dish or a bowl etc., by re-fusing it in the kiln - again for about 12 hours. A lot can go awry during the process, but when it doesn't, the end result is glass art that is strong, durable, unique and also functional.

Eve has been fusing glass for over 20 years and sells at various locations in Virginia. She also accepts custom orders.



Mariana Concha says of her painting, *From Wounds to Wings* (left), "This painting speaks to the universal journey from pain to healing, from the weight of sorrow to the freedom of renewal. The body posture represents the times of struggles that have shaped us, while the wings rise as symbols of strength, wisdom, and transformation. It is a tribute to the beauty that can emerge from our deepest scars."

Edward Murray, writer and artist says, “I am always thankful when asked if I can photograph a family event or a wedding. There is a look of disbelief when I say that I am not that kind of photographer and when I respectfully decline. Recently, someone asked why I would not photograph events and limit myself to film. A limit describes a value as a function as it approaches a maximum amount of something. When art has a limit it is close to reaching its specified point, it has been restrained. I have yet to reach a limit of expression or application of my creative, emotional, or imaginative boundary.

“The philosopher John Searle proposed a thought experiment that challenges the notion of consciousness. A person is in a room filled with boxes of Chinese symbols with a rulebook in English. The person does not know or understand Chinese. A message is passed under the door. The person forms a new message using the rulebook and corresponding Chinese characters, and passes the message back under the door. The person outside the room understands the message and forms an opinion that the person inside the room is intelligent and understands Chinese. The posits of Searle’s argument is that the person inside the room is performing symbol recognition (syntax), like a computer or artificial intelligence, without the deeper understanding or meaning (semantics). The core finding of the Chinese Room experiment is; patterns in, and within symbols, is not the same as consciousness. The duality of the experiment is the same thing in art, whether I am a film photographer or an event photographer, art, and its notion and implications, just as consciousness, is subjective.

“‘Love Only’ is a street photograph where the sign is in syntax and a person has applied the word “love,” making the photograph an urgent missive. The photograph was taken on film and printed in the darkroom on silver gelatin resin coated paper. We are taught controls of left turns and right turns through symbols. The same controls can be applied to constraints...authority, power, privilege, and rights, prescribed in religious, political, & societal bounds... restrictions and limits on the size, amount, or even direction of some things that are permissible or possible. In this time of uncertainty, some people are not treating people kind or decent. People are applying their constraints, and understandings of their boundaries, to others. Kindness and decency shows a deeper understanding and meaning of this shared notion of life. Art, living, and love, are consciousness and are limitless.”



all my friends got broken wings
think they will never fly again

i aint no king of crows
i just know

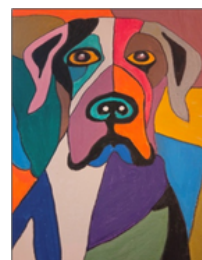
the sky is always falling
love is always calling

love only

-- Edward Murray



From painter **Lew Wills**, “I have been painting for nearly two years. I have been a teacher for many years and am now retired. I started with landscapes and now have transitioned to Picasso-style pets and Celtic art.”



Daria Bessom tells us, “I have been making cards for more than 15 years, ever since a coworker introduced me to Stampin’ Up products and a card-making club. I have not entered a Hallmark store since.”

“The job of an artist is to offer a sanctuary of beauty to an ugly world.” - Jeff Goins , author and blogger

‘Throws’ and Woes of Working with Clay Before a Show
as told by **Elaine Freeland**

Joe and I imposed a deadline of October 1 to last work with wet clay before the LOW Arts Show. Deadline met. Loaded the kiln for bisque firing. Firing worked well. Then loaded kiln full of pots for glaze firing. Kiln died before completion – bad elements and ugly pots! Kiln company had to make the elements – and would only ship via UPS Ground – taking a week for the elements to arrive. Miracles do happen. Manassas Clay agreed to fire other pots – if we bought the equivalence in clay (50 lbs) to be fired there. We bisqued a few more pots in our little manual kiln. Most importantly, the elements arrived in 3 days! Joe was all set to install the elements with the old ones removed and the kiln cleaned. Kiln has been repaired, reloaded with partially fired pots, and fired. While the kiln is cooling from its high of 2200°, more pieces are bisque firing in the little kiln. After the big kiln is cool and emptied, we will reload with fish, turtles, bowls, trays, and mugs for another glaze firing. In the meantime, glazed pots are prepared for sale, photographed, and entered into our database. We will be ready October 24 with lots of pots and a dish of Onion Souffle and a bag of Fritos Scoops for the reception.



Painter **Barry Lotenberg** tells us “I’m always looking for inspiration for new paintings. Travel always provides great content, and some of the works I will be showing this month are based on my trip earlier this year to Croatia, especially the city of Dubrovnik. Another surprising source is those photos that Windows 10 shows when your computer screen locks. Beautiful landscapes and cityscapes which provide jumping off points for elements of a painting. Alas, I recently switched to a MacBook, which does not rotate background photos, so I guess I need to find a new source of inspiration.”

Before I finish this long newsletter, let me include some fun events (click on the underlined words):

The Graceful Envelope Contest - a calligraphy contest.

Art Unleashed - contest to paint one of several ceramic dogs to be exhibited on the streets of Charlottesville next spring.

The Arts Center in Orange is looking for venders for their Holiday Gift Bazaar on December 6, 2025.

See you at the show!



For more information visit our website, our Facebook and Instagram pages, and watch for articles in the Lake Currents.

