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Read this newsletter in color, and learn
more about the League at:

<http://www.olympiaartleague.com/>

NEXT MEETING:**January 19, 2012**

6:30 p.m. Artistic Advice & Socializing

7:00 p.m. Business meeting

7:30 p.m. Speaker, demonstration

January Meeting Topic: We are excited to have Marina Kuran as our January General Meeting presenter.

Marina creates art in McCleary where she now resides. She is blessed with a lovely private studio and welcomes tours.

Marina incorporates art with therapy and teaches youth and adults to explore their inner-selves through manipulation of various art mediums.

She received her Bachelor of Arts from The Evergreen College and has been a successful art instructor in Hawaii as well as here in the Pacific Northwest.

Marina traditionally works with watercolor, oils and acrylics, but also has some lovely computer generated pieces. Her canvases are generally large and her style is loose & fluid, with bright colors that lead the viewer through her paintings. For more of her works visit

www.marinakuran.com

Artist Statement

My mother, a successful costume designer and painter, enrolled me in my first formal drawing class at the age of 8. It was love at first sight. Although in the early years I was captivated by and drew human faces and figures, nature became and remains my most profound source of inspiration and creativity.



I'm a firm believer in art's ability to heal, so it's very important to me that my work be a part of what is joyful and uplifting in this world. I'm often drawn to express the magical, whimsical spirit of what I see and feel and am fascinated by the interplay of color and contrast. I tend to gravitate towards the use of bright, bold colors, rounded shapes and often unusual light. The highest praise comes when one of my paintings speaks to a child or the child within.

For the past ten years I've pretty much abandoned planned paintings in favor of what is commonly referred to as "stream of consciousness", or "intuitive painting". For me, this is a much more exciting and rewarding way to paint, allowing me to access and explore uncharted territory. New shapes, colors and textures seem to leap and dance across the canvas as they blend and dry asking to be further defined. The only difference is that for me it's a visual song that takes place between myself and the canvas until a piece is finished. Then the song takes place between the canvas and the viewer.



Letter from the President



Artist Journal: Recording your Ah-Ha Moments

Through the years as I have "played with paint" I have kept a journal to remind me of artistic "ah-has".

Each painting is a journey of process that sometimes flows and sometimes dead-ends. Journaling the successes means I may not have to discover things twice. My journal is a 3 inch wide 8 X 9 three ring binder. I can purchase lined paper for notes and cut & punch pages of watercolor paper to include reminders of techniques that work well. The loose pages allow me to clump similar subjects as I discover techniques that work for me. Cut up paper is never intimidating (use the back of failed paintings if you are frugal). I will often use 3-4 pages to try out different ideas, tossing the failures and saving the "Ah-Ha" ones. When I take a

workshop I take notes, include them in the journal and often e-mail them back to the instructor to validate their efforts at passing on their "ah-has". In your journal write down the issues that are troubling you. You will find yourself exploring further to resolve them. Start your own journal. You will be so glad you did. It will become invaluable to you.

Roxana Caples

Upcoming Events

"Wish You Were Here"

Postcard Exhibit, Silent Auction

Opens: January 11, ends March 2

Reception: February 3, 6 p.m.

Where: Kenneth J. Minnaert Center for the Arts Gallery at South Puget Sound Community College.

The opening reception kicks off the 6-week silent auction as well, with bidding beginning at 7 p.m. on Jan. 20. Each of the works on display will be available in the auction. A special closing reception will take place from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on March 2, with bidding closing at 7 p.m. Successful bidders at the closing reception can take their winning works home with them that night, while successful bidders not present will be contacted via e-mail following the closing reception. All proceeds from the silent auction benefit the Kenneth J. Minnaert Center for the Arts Gallery. A "People's Choice" award will also be announced at the closing reception.

Olympia Arts Walk XLIV

Registration Due: Friday, February 10th, 2012, 7 pm

Deliver Registration Form and payment to:

The Olympia Center, 222 Columbia Street NW

More Info: Stephanie Johnson, Olympia Arts & Events
sjohnso1@co.olympia.wa.us or 360.709.2678

Community Roundtable

New date: 4th Monday of the Month, 6-7pm

Where: Olympia Timberland Library - 313 8th Ave S.

Topics and schedule subject to change.

You'll note every other month is *Pecha Kucha*. Japanese for "Chit Chat," the event is an opportunity for YOU to share your art or make a presentation on an art-related topic. It's also known as 20x20, as each presenter shows 20 slides in a Powerpoint format, timed to 20 seconds per slide. A little over 6 minutes total! EASY! FUN!

And we'll bring the popcorn!

January - Artist Collectives June - Pecha Kucha

February - Pecha Kucha

July - Art Spaces in Olympia

March - Art Marketing

August - Pecha Kucha

April - Pecha Kucha

September - Mural Toolkit

May - Comics

October - Pecha Kucha

Thurston Co. Fair

It's hard to believe in eight months we will be warm and it will be time for the Thurston County Fair, so dust off those art supplies. The Fair starts on Wednesday, August 1st thru Sunday, August 5th. Closer to spring I will have the sign up sheet for dates and times to volunteer.

Karen Crate, Fine Fair Superintendent

Opportunities

Juried Art Show

Associated Arts of Ocean Shores 42nd Fine Art Show. Show dates are April 20 thru 22, 2012. Image due date is February 17, 2012 (digital images only). Cost is \$10 for each entry or three for \$25 (Check, Visa/MC, PayPal via the website a). More info at www.associatedarts.org. E-mail questions or entries to juriedshowassociatedarts@gmail.com or Mail entries to Associated Arts of Ocean Shores, Attn: Juried Art Show, PO Box 241, Ocean Shores, WA 98569.

Steven Hill, our February presenter, will be the judge of the Fine Arts portion of the Ocean Shores show.

The Art of Art Presentation and Preservation

Learn how to protect and present your art with Donna Watson of Dingle Bay Art/Donna Watson Art Services. Donna will discuss presentation methods that do not compromise quality even on an artists budget, introduce a variety of materials available and their pros and cons, and demonstrate the effects of poor preservation techniques. Donna will focus on photographs, watercolor, pastels, fabric art, shadowboxing and oil paintings. This afternoon workshop is for young or new artists, art students in high school, and artists who have never had any work framed.

Date: February 4, 2012

Time: 1-3

Cost: \$10

Location: Rising Tide School, 114 20th Avenue SE, Olympia, WA 98501

Info and Registration: inforisingtideschool.org or (360) 753-0820

Arts Walk and the Food Bank

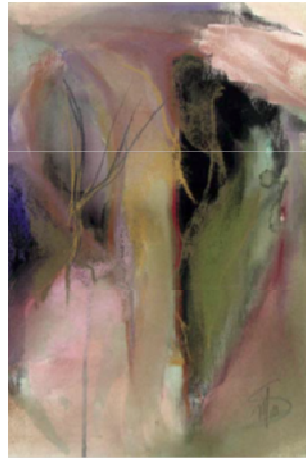
The Art League has partnered with the Thurston County Food Bank to provide League members and Food Bank volunteers and staff an opportunity to show their work during Spring Arts Walk. This year, 2012, marked the fourth year of this annual event.

Note from the Editor

My sincere apologies for the late posting of the January Newsletter. Between equipment failure and power outages, it just did not get out on time. There is, however, great hope for future newsletters in the form of Adrienne Milam. She has recently moved to our area and joined OAL. She is very enthusiastic about art and a great addition to our group. Thanks for volunteering Adrienne, and welcome to Olympia Art League.

Member's show in Longview

Mia Schulte shows her pastels at the Broadway Gallery at 1418 Commerce Avenue in Longview, WA. She is joined by Margo Westfall and Don Lovett with their steel sculptures. The show runs through January 31



Mia Schulte



Margo and Don

OAL Website: Member's Gallery and Member's Links 2012

There are two features on the OAL website that allow OAL members to promote their artwork:

www.olympiaartleague.com

1. **Member's Links** is a listing directory for members who have their own websites. Members who wish to list a link to their website in this section should send their website address to christi@beaudesigns.com; there is no charge.

2. **Member's Gallery** is a section on the OAL website for members to have a mini-website all their own without all the expense and effort of creating one for themselves. In the Member's Gallery, they can post a 150 word biography (including contact information), and up to 5 images of their artwork. (JPEG about 3"x 5" x 100 dpi). Fee for the first year is \$35.00. Renewal fee is \$25.00 for each year thereafter, and allows members to swap in new images. These fees are indicated on the OAL membership form, and can be submitted to the League treasurer, along with membership fee, around the first of each year.

Member's Gallery artists should send their bio and (5) artwork images to christi@beaudesigns.com. The site will be updated in March, just as soon as the membership roster is updated. Newsletter announcements will keep artists abreast of the details.

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

The membership year for Olympia Art League begins in January and is good until the end of December.

We know that you are busy and may have to skip a meeting or two, but your membership ensures that Olympia Art League is healthy and can provide shows, presentations and activities that have made our league a success since 1945.

please mail a check to:

Olympia Art League
PO Box 404
Olympia, Washington 98507

Need a ride?

Olympia Art League has implemented the Buddy Patrol. Members from various areas have offered to provide rides to our meetings to those in their neighborhood who don't have transportation or are unable to drive themselves. **Irene Boldt** is available in the Northwest area (Cooper Point, Mud Bay). **Karen Crate** is available in the Southwest area (Black Lake, Littlerock, Tumwater). **Arlene Baller** is available in the Northeast area (Lacey, North Marvin). And **LaDonna Kruger** will provide a ride from the Southeast area (Yelm Highway).



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