



Newsletter October 2020

ARTS MONTH FALL 2020



Arts Walk is moving forward with a modified approach for fall 2020. Arts Walk will continue to be a platform for amplifying the creativity and innovation in Olympia and serve as a vehicle for connecting our community.

Instead of a two-day event, the program is shifting to an **Arts Month**. Throughout October the city will highlight programs and activities presented by participating locations, artists, and virtual performances. Keeping with the current CDC and State guidelines, in-person performances and gatherings will not be allowed as part of this event. Activities will meet local and state guidelines, and organizations are required to provide a social distancing plan for their site or activity. The final program hasn't been posted yet, but it's anticipated that activities will include:

- Works of art on display indoors and outdoors
- Virtual performances and events
- Socially distanced workshops and programs
- Film programs that meet state guidelines
- Take-out art activities
- Recently installed murals and public art

This won't be Olympia's typical Arts Walk. There won't be street closures or public gatherings; instead of a printed map there will be an online schedule of activities. Participating artists and organizations will provide a social distancing plan. The city has encouraged artwork on display in spaces like restaurants and storefronts, virtual performances, virtual artist meet and greets, and allowable in-person activities like films, museum visits, and workshops with 10 people or less keeping with State and County social distancing guidelines.



To support local creatives, businesses, and organizations all registration fees were waived. Additionally, the fall 2020 program will expand from downtown only to locations within Olympia City limits. Check out the offerings to be posted soon at <http://olympiawa.gov/city-services/parks/artswalk.aspx>

This article and the one on page four are adapted from the City of Olympia's arts notices.



Staying Positive

What day is it? I have to really think about this from time to time. Every day blends into every other day without our regular schedules. We have had to radically change the way we live our lives.

We've also had to find ways to stay positive. This is probably the hardest thing we have had to do. As artists, staying positive greatly affects our art. Also, as artists we have the ability to bring light into dark times. Sharing our art is the best thing we can do to lift peoples' spirits. Staying positive and having the positivity shine in our art is a gift we might be best suited for.

Now is the time for us to find ways to share our art and bring the light into these dark times. There will be a day when we are all together again. In the meantime, stay safe and stay positive.

Rick



Don't forget...

It's Time to Pay OAL Membership Dues

Beat the rush; renew your OAL membership before the end of the year. The cost for a year's membership in the Olympia Art League is only **\$30**. Membership is for a calendar year, so your current membership will expire at the end of 2020. Please mail your check to: Olympia Art League, PO Box 404, Olympia, WA 98507, ATTN: Tony Lirette.

Art Journaling Workshop via Zoom

Why Art Journaling?

- A chance for focused time each day to write and play
- Eases the stresses of life
- Allows the "right side" of the brain and creativity to get some exercise
- The artsy stuff is fun so it can motivate you to jump start your art practice
- You can "see" your own thoughts.
- It's focused, quiet time alone without distraction—just like meditation
- You can write about anything—free associate, vent, angst, pain, grief, gratitude—it can be cathartic



Who's offering the workshop?

Linda Selsor started art journaling as a COVID survival tool back in March. She will demonstrate a technique she picked up online that combines written journaling and art. She'll show you how to use bleeding tissue paper as a background or finishing option. It's fun and interactive—you can use supplies you already have on hand.

How will this work?

This is a free, two-hour max workshop. You just need to set up a little work area in front of the computer, gather some supplies and be prepared to have a hands on experience.

If you are interested, let Linda know at lselsor@msn.com by October 15th. Once she sees who's interested, she will set a date and time based on everyone's availability. She'll offer several workshops if there is a lot of interest.

Support Groups Meeting Via ZOOM



For the foreseeable future, the abstract, acrylic and watercolor support groups will be conducted via Zoom. To receive a meeting invitation, please check in with the support group lead listed on page four and consult our new directory for their contact information.

Remembering Carolyn



Sadly we report we've lost a member of our group. Carolyn Burt passed away suddenly last June. She was an exceptionally creative artist with many talents including scratchboard, pen and ink drawings, watercolor, and acrylic painting.

When she had to endure four back surgeries and chemotherapy during the same time, it was art that pulled her through the pain and difficulty.

Carolyn and her husband, Chuck, had an art gallery in the Proctor neighborhood of Tacoma. She loved to do demonstrations there and at other public events. You may recall she did a scratchboard demonstration at an OAL meeting last year. At right, Carolyn with her drawings at the Proctor gallery before her 2016 surgeries and treatment.



She had many great artistic adventures during her life, including several cruise ship art exhibitions, a commissioned painting of a classic car for the LeMay Car Museum, befriending and drawing street vendors in Puerto Vallarta, and portraits of friends and family. Carolyn captured them all in her art. At right, Carolyn presents a Puerto Vallarta street vendor with the scratch board portrait she did while on vacation the prior year.



We've lost a very special artist and one that will be missed.

Contributed by Jan Hansen with special thanks to Carolyn's husband Chuck who provided the memories and photos.



South Sound Urban Sketchers

Until further notice all of the meetups for the Sketchers are suspended. We will be issuing a challenge each month for the second Saturday (our normal meeting day) to everyone to post a sketch that relates to the Urban Sketchers' manifesto and keeps to the challenge theme.

Instagram or post your sketches to the Facebook page or the Google Group for South Sound Urban Sketchers and check out what everyone else contributed while you are there.

Contact: Cheryl Wilson at cwilson3250@gmail.com



GETTING ACQUAINTED

Introducing...

Nancy Arnold



Nancy returned to painting and photography following her retirement in 2012, joining the Olympia Art League in 2013. She took watercolor classes from Ann Breckon several times. Most of her current painting is Naïve Art—using

acrylics to create scenes on her grandchildren's toy boxes and husband's beehives.

Nancy and her husband continue to travel. They traveled to Slovenia last year and hiked to Lake Pluzna (which is actually a reservoir). She enjoys taking photos of nature juxtaposed to man-made structures using her iPhone 8 because it is so portable when hiking.



"I find inspiration in all art and artists. I enjoy the creative process of the arts and strive to capture the beauty of the world."

Contributed by Lindsey Ford



OAL Board & Activity Leads

President: Rick Drescher

Vice President: Heather Simons

Secretary: Anne-Marie Brown

Treasurer: Tony Lirette

Members at Large: Karla Fowler, Ruth Fuller, & Jan Hansen

Past President: Nicki Weber

Newsletter: Linda Selsor, Editor

Getting Acquainted: Lindsey Ford

Proof Readers: Roxana Caples, Cynthia Walker

Membership Officer: Tony Lirette

Program Chair: Roxana Caples

Correspondence: April Works

Community Outreach: Teresa Marie Staal-Cowley

Recruiter: Roxana Caples

Art Workshops: JoAnne Sanford

Meetings:

Name Tags: Ruth Fuller

Phone Reminders: Jean Van Doren

Refreshments: Heather Simons

Meeting Set Up: Mike Scheurich

Reverse Mirror: Jean Stewart

Artistic Advice Basket: Carolyn Long

Website Gallery: Rick Drescher

OAL Sponsored Shows:

Members Only Art Show: Heather Simons—Canceled

Arts Walk Juried Show: Canceled

County Fair Art Show: Diana Fairbanks, Kay Tolles—Canceled

Local OAL Art Show Venues:

Bonsai Wok: Anne-Marie Brown

Capitol Chiropractic: Lone Moody

Cooper Point Public House: Rick Drescher

Thurston County Family & Juvenile Court and Sutton Chiropractic and Massage:

Teresa Marie Staal-Cowley

TRA Medical Imaging: Jan Hansen

Painting Get Togethers:

Paint-Out: Rick Drescher

Paint-In Day: Vacant

Paint-In Night: Karen Bush

Support Groups:

Abstract: Lindsey Ford

Acrylic: Karla Fowler

Drawing: Rick Drescher

Watercolor: JoAnne Sanford, Ruth Fuller



Tacoma Art Museum (TAM) Tentatively Plans Reopening to the Public Friday, October 9th

Since closing March 13, TAM staff has been hard at work creating a reopening strategy to provide a safe and healthy environment for visitors and staff. David F. Setford, TAM Executive Director, served on the state-wide committee which created museum specific reopening procedure recommendations that were submitted to the Office of Governor Jay Inslee. Following the guidelines from Washington State and Pierce County Health Department, new procedures will be in place to offer an art respite and nearly contactless experience for visitors.

To allow for enhanced cleaning, **Museum hours will change to 10 am - 5 pm Friday through Sunday.** The Museum Store will be open during museum hours and will limit visitors to five at a time. Temporarily, TAM's Art Studio, café, and hands-on gallery interactives will be unavailable, as will access to the lockers and coat check.

To Visit TAM:

- Advanced purchase of timed admission tickets can be made online at www.tacomaartmuseum.org
- Wear a mask to enter and visit the Museum. Should you forget your mask, they will be available free of charge at the welcome desk.
- Leave coats and large bags at home, if possible, as coat check and lockers will not be available.
- Follow the predetermined one-way path through the Museum to help ensure compliance with visitor spacing and capacity limitations.
- Utilize the contactless and motion-activated hand sanitizer stations that will be available at various locations in the Museum.

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE **Wednesday, October 21st**

Please send your kudos, photos, announcements and ideas for the **November** newsletter to Linda Selsor via email—lselsor@msn.com. If you have questions give her a call at (360) 491-0377

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Contributors: Members of the Olympia Art League
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