

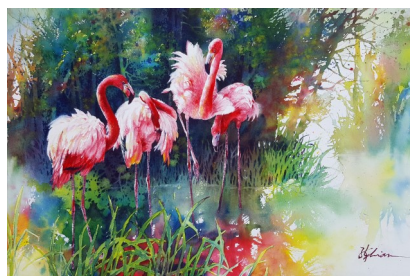
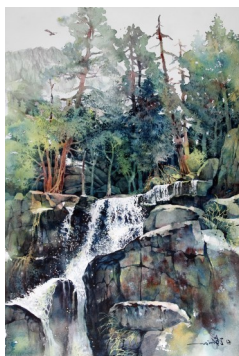
**January Monthly Zoom Meeting Guest Speaker:
Lian Quan Zhen**



Lian Quan Zhen will demonstrate at our January monthly meeting how to paint undersea life. Lian began sketching and painting in childhood. He continued the hobby while he practiced medicine in Canton Province, China. After immigrating to the U.S. in 1985, he received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of California at Berkeley in 1992 and a Master of Architecture Degree from the Massachusetts' Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1996. He specializes in watercolor and Chinese painting is a sought-after artist and teacher in the U.S. and abroad.

Mr. Zhen has been an invited juror for various watercolor exhibitions in the U.S. His paintings hang in numerous institutional and private collections, including the MIT Museum, and they've been featured in specialty magazines and books here and in China.

His five books on Chinese watercolor techniques have been published by North Light Books and have been distributed internationally. He also has a coffee table book out and another book printed with his paintings. You can view a gallery of his paintings and find available workshops and DVD's by going to lianspainting.com. We are privileged to have Lian Zhen speak and demonstrate techniques at our meeting in January, which will be by Zoom. Many of his paintings are shown below.



Holiday Paintings by OAL Members



"Back to the Barn" by Heather McDougall



"Winter Chickadee" by Heather McDougall



"I See You Down There" by Roxie Caples



"Yellow Bear" by Ruth Bravetti

Holiday Paintings by OAL Members



Winter Scenes by Dennis Gough



Holiday Paintings by OAL Members



"Reflections": Holiday season feeling reflections - how one thing in life reflects back by Deborah Baker



"Winter Cabin at Bald Hill" by Terri Johnson



"Off Leash" by Rick Drescher



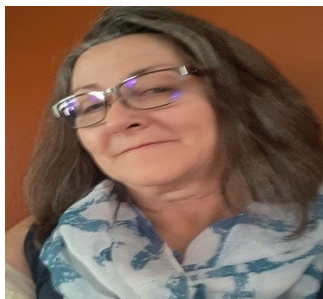
"Polar Bear" by Rick Drescher

Holiday Paintings by OAL Members



"First Christmas in our New Home and First White Christmas" By Susan Cornelis





GETTING ACQUAINTED

Introducing- Sharon Giles

Here we are once again at our holiday hiatus. The past three months of meetings are just a blur. It all has gone by so quickly.

I want to thank everyone for their patience with our new hybrid Zoom meetings. We are intending to return in January with a better knowledge of how to improve it all.

Remember to get painting for your entry into the Members Only Show on January 29th. It will offer a People's Choice Award and is lots of fun for both artist and residents. A prospectus for the show will be out soon.

May the holidays find you with the ones you love most. "It's not what is under your tree but rather, who is around it that matters."

Happy Holidays.



"Santa's Cap" by Heather McDougall

Heather McDougall



I was a native of north Texas until this summer when my husband Bob and I moved to the Olympia area. So I am new to OAL this year.

Like many artists, my art journey was as first realistic, but now it has grown much more abstract, intuitive and whimsical. My favorite subjects include abstract landscapes, florals, and animals, as well as nonobjective.

My favorite media are water media, mixed media, and printmaking (usually with a gel plate.) Lately I've focused on the new art of pouring acrylics.

I've been awarded Signature Status from the Society of Watercolor (Fort Worth), Southwestern Watercolor Society, and the Texas & Neighbors Regional Art Exhibition.

For a look at my work, see my website:
SharonGilesArt.com.

- Contributed by Lindsey Ford





November's OAL Meeting and Guest Speaker's Review With Mia Schulte and Richenda Richardson



Our program "The Ins and Outs of Working with Galleries" was led by Mia Schulte (**The Artists' Gallery** co-operative) and Richenda Richardson (**Childhood's End Gallery LLC**).

Several elements in common were mentioned by both galleries in determining the perfect fit for both the artist and the gallery. Quality of art and presentation are critical. Is the art well crafted and produced? Do you have a body of original work with your own voice/style? Are you committed to producing your work? Also, the type of work (painting, sculpture, photography e.g.) and the needs and space in the gallery will be considered in the decision of whether or not to show your work. Fees and commissions vary as well. Allowing sales outside of the gallery will be a different decision depending on the gallery. Be sure you understand the requirements and can agree to them. Decide if you are a studio artist who sells online or in your studio, or if you are a gallery artist who will be in a brick and mortar building.

How do you approach a gallery? First, do your research into the gallery and decide if it will work for you. Location, sales, art shown, gallery agreements and requirements are aspects to be considered. Visit the gallery you are interested in. However, it is best to call the gallery or send an email expressing your interest. No cold calls! The right person to talk to may not be there or may be busy with other things when you show up. Cold calls don't leave a good impression. Attend Arts Walk and look at artists work, noting how artwork is framed or displayed, and types of art available. Participate in community service such as charity fundraisers. It's a way to be seen, and to display your work with no commitments (except to the fundraising organization).

The Artists' Gallery is a co-operative gallery managed collectively by the artists in the Capital Mall. Each of the artists are responsible for their own work, as well as the management of the gallery. For example, each artist must show work that is two years old or less. They also assist with sales in the gallery as well as the business of the gallery. A contract must be signed that lists the hours, fees, commission and other requirements.

Applications begin on The Artists' Gallery website (www.theartistsgallery.com) in the "Apply Section." Applicants will need an artist statement, a resume, and quality digital photos of their art. If gallery artists see a good fit, you will be called in for a personal interview. Evaluation includes skill and quality of work, type of work (what the gallery and customers need and look for, originals versus prints, jewelry, ceramic, e.g.). It is like hiring someone. The process should determine if the venue and the responsibilities are a good fit for both the artist and the gallery.

Childhood's End Gallery is located in downtown Olympia and was founded in 1970. It is a sole proprietor business managed by the owners, and is the oldest gallery in the US still owned by the original founders. Focusing on originality, craftsmanship, and beauty, they sell both high quality arts and crafts. They believe in building good relationships with their artists and customers. Acting as agents for their artists, they provide sales possibilities from a variety of customers, including local businesses, hospitals, law offices, government officials and local residents as well as travelers who stop by. Childhood's End Gallery also supports online shopping.

At Childhood's End Gallery the artist helps to decide what to show and how to present their work. The gallery requires that the art is original and is owned by the artist. No outside sales are allowed except by prior agreement. The artist provides an artist statement and a resume. Artists must have a body of work prepared for display. Acceptance is influenced by quality and salability of the work. Factors affecting acceptance are work that is different than what is currently being displayed, salable pricing, and a variety of sizes. Shows are booked two years in advance and gallery artists are expected to participate in theme related shows. The owners and a couple of employees will determine who is selected for the gallery. The gallery does not critique work, mentor artists, or appraise artwork.

Both galleries agreed that to succeed at joining a gallery you must be committed to trying. Rejection can be hard, but don't give up until you find the right fit.

- Contributed by Deborah Cornett



Spread the word about the Information Session for the upcoming Community Accelerator Grant program from ArtsFund. The basics are:

- Open to all WA nonprofits whose primary mission is to present or support arts and culture.
 - Min budget size is a three-year average of \$25,000.
 - Grants are \$2,500 - \$25,000 and are unrestricted (no Covid impact required).
 - Grant application will be open January 4-31, 2023
- The Information session is on Friday, Dec 9 from 11 – noon.
- Funding will provide essential capital to Washington’s cultural organizations, including fiscally sponsored and tribal organizations, whose primary mission is to produce or support arts and cultural activities.
 - Eligibility: Organizations whose primary mission is to produce or support arts and cultural activities, and who have a minimum three-year average budget of \$25,000. There is no budget cap.

We are requesting help to:

Get people to register for the Information Session Webinar on Dec 9: [https://artsfund-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_enG8c2oOTXKwM--HpaN6DQ](https://artsfund-org.zoom.us/join/91234567890)

Sign Up for more details on the Grant webpage: [Community Accelerator Grant | ArtsFund](#)



Pastel Group Leader: We are in need of a lead for the Pastel Monthly Group. Contact Lorna Sheveland at lsheve@comcast.net if you are interested in doing this. She can tell you what the job entails.

Website Liaison: Receive artwork from members wishing to post on OAL website. Convert photos to acceptable requirements. Send photos on to our website manager.

Thurston County Fair Art Show: Coordinate and manage the art show for the week of the fair.

Arts Walk Juried Show: Two OAL members are needed to work closely with Roxana Caples and help chair our annual Spring Arts Walk Juried Show. No experience required. This show has been presented for many years and is well organized and loved by our public viewers.

Program Chair: Arrange monthly OAL presentations

New venue search:
Search out new venues for our members to hang their work.

Please, consider volunteering,
Heather McDougall OAL Acting President
Contact: 360-742-4667
2stannheather@gmail.com

DEADLINE FOR THE FEBRUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER IS SATURDAY JANUARY 21, 2023.

Please send your kudos, photos, announcements and ideas for the **NEXT** newsletter to Terri Johnson via email—mtjpublishers@msn.com. If you have questions give Terri a call or text at (360) 280-4617

OAL Membership Renewal

The League is accepting renewals for the calendar year 2023. Send a check for \$30.00/person and/or \$60.00/couple to: OAL, 700 Sleater-Kinney Road **Suite B331**, Lacey, WA 98503. Please indicate any change in address, phone or email.

If you have questions about membership renewal, please contact April Works at aprilworks@gmail.com.

Postcard Exhibition

South Puget Sound Community College's 2023
Fine Art Postcard Exhibition
"From the Edge" January 3, - February 3, 2023

Artist Opportunities



Image: Sally Vogel, Viewer's Choice Award
Winner 2022

2023 Fine Art Postcard
Exhibition

"FROM the EDGE"
HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Deadline is December 9,
2022!

Special Thanks to all the artists
that contributed this year and
very special thanks to all our
continuing supporters! Artists
and sponsors make
programming possible at the
Leo!

The Fine Art Postcard Exhibition is an annual event that brings the local creative community together under one theme. The 2023 theme is "From the Edge". Postcard-sized (4"x6") original artworks, created by artists of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds, will be sold through silent auction. All proceeds support gallery programming. Submission Deadline: Friday, December 9, 2022.
<https://spscc.edu/gallery>

Olympia Art League Website Renovation

The Olympia Art League website is undergoing renovation to opt for a more user-friendly maintenance option rather than totally relying on an outside contractor. Changes to the website content will be minimal; however, the design and layout will likely change. We are aiming to transfer to the new format by February 2023.

In the meantime, the current gallery featuring OAL members' work will continue. If you have a current website on the membership page this will also continue.

For the new design of our website feel free to send up to three photos of your art with the title, medium and dimension to aprilworks@gmail.com. The size should not exceed 2MB with less than 2048 pixels on the long side.

Let's share our art and bring joy to others.

Open Competition for Pastel Artist

\$32,000 TOTAL PRIZES

DAKOTA ART PASTELS announces its **THIRD ANNUAL** Soft Pastel Only Juried Competition to promote and advance the creativity and possibilities of this unique painting medium. This is an annual online competition with quarterly segments. There will be **CASH PRIZES** awarded in each quarter to contest winners.

2 UNIQUE CATEGORIES: EMERGING & ESTABLISHED

Quarterly winners in both categories are advanced to the final Grand Prize selections at the end of the year!

[ENTER THE FOURTH QUARTER COMPETITION!](https://www.dakotapastels.com/products/2022-Pastel-Competition)

<https://www.dakotapastels.com/products/2022-Pastel-Competition>

Kudos

Congratulations to Mia Schulte, her artwork "First Planting" as shown will be in Northwind SMALL EXPRESSIONS juried exhibition November 18, 2022- January 2, 2023.



Mia's artwork "Small Wonders" shown below has also been accepted in PRIMARY COLORS Women Painters of Washington Gallery Seattle, Washington, October 11, 2022 - January 6, 2023.



OAL Artist Support Groups

Join one of OAL's support groups via Zoom. Bring a work for gentle, constructive feedback and try your hand at the month's challenge. We'll teach you how to share a photo of your work on Zoom or you can simply hold it up in front of the camera. We also talk about classes, books, artists or teachers that have inspired us. All experience levels are welcome. All mediums are welcome in the Abstract Group. Regular meeting times are listed below. Check in with the contact person to get added to the group's e-mail list and the Zoom invitation to the meetings.

Abstract Group

Date & Time: Meets the *third Monday* of each month. The next meeting is December 19th from 1:30 to 3:00 PM via Zoom.

Contact: Linda Selsor via email at selsor@msn.com if you would like to be added to the group's invitation list.

The challenge for December has been continued from November's challenge "paint an emotion or feeling".

All mediums, beginners and curiosity seekers are welcome. Join us and bring your challenge and another painting to share. We will be meeting via Zoom through the end of the year.

Watercolor Group

Date & Time: Meets the *second Friday* of each month. The next meeting is January 13th from 1:00 to 2:30 PM at the Lacey Fire Station, 6500 Mullen Road SE.

Contact: Heather McDougall at 2stannheather@gmail.com

The challenge for January is "sailboat".



Shown: November "fruit" challenge by Veronica Kessler

Acrylic Group

Date & Time: Meets the *fourth Friday* of each month. The next meeting is December 23rd from 1:00 to 2:30. The group has voted to continue with Zoom meetings for now.

Contact: Karla Fowler at nwnxart@comcast.net for questions or to be added to the invitation reminder list.

The challenge for December is "reflections".

Shown: November "two fruits" challenge by Terri Johnson



Pastel Group

The Pastel Group has been placed on hold until we have a volunteer for group lead.



Think Tank Tuesday

Think Tank is the second Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom. All are welcome to attend. Put your thinking caps on and join us to socialize, talk art, and think up terrific ideas to make OAL a more amazing art club.

OAL Board & Activity Leads

Acting President: Heather McDougall

Acting Vice President: Sherie Balko-Nation

Secretary: Anne-Marie Brown

Treasurer: April Works

Members at Large: Karla Fowler, Jan Hansen & Martha Trupp

Communications Chair: Ruth Bravetti

Graphic Designer: Jan Hansen

Membership Chair: Lindsey Ford

Newsletter Editor: Terri Johnson

Nominating Committee: Dennis Gough, Veronica Kessler & Annabel Kirschner

PowerPoint: Cynthia Walker & Terri Johnson

Program Chair: Martha Trupp

Zoom Masters: Melissa Ward, Dan Carver

Web Master: Christi McGinley

Website Liaison: April Works

Juried Show Mentor: Roxana Caples

OAL Sponsored Shows:

Members Only Art Show: Sherie Balko-Nation, Karen Bush, Birdie O'Neil

Arts Walk Juried Show:

County Fair Art Show:

OAL Local Art Show Venues:

Bonsai Wok: Anne-Marie Brown

TRA Medical Imaging: Jan Hansen

Painting Get Togethers:

Paint-Out Day: Jean Stewart & Jane King

Paint-Out Night For Summer: Karen Bush

Paint-In Night: Karen Bush

Support Groups:

Abstract: Linda Selsor

Acrylic: Karla Fowler

Pastel :

Watercolor: Heather McDougall

December Holiday Event



**Come see our new items
and celebrate
the Holidays with us!**

Featured Guest Artist: Brian Buntain - Jeweler

Live Music by Vince Brown!

**December 9th
5:00 - 7:00pm**

food
wine
gifts

360-357-6920
info@theartistsgallery.com
www.theartistsgallery.com

OPEN
Mon to Sat from 10:00pm-7:00pm
Sunday from 12:00pm-5:00pm

Capital Mall Promenade 2505 4th Ave W, Suite 105 Olympia, WA 98502

Olympia Art League Newsletter

*"An official publication of the
Olympia Art League"*

Editor: Terri Johnson
Contributors: Members of the Olympia Art League