



GAITHERSBURG
FINE ARTS
ASSOCIATION

<https://www.gaithersburgfinearts.org/>

APRIL 2020

Online Presentation with Susan O'Neil

As you all know, all the members of GFAA worked very hard to get their artwork finished on time and framed just so they could enter their pieces into the Kentland Juried Exhibit. Shortly afterwards, the rug was pulled out from under us because the Covid-19 virus forced us to change our daily routines. Many public buildings and facilities were forced to close unexpectedly. That included the Kentland Mansion.

Our planned reception at the mansion was also canceled, however, the GFAA Board is working with Susan O'Neill who was the juror of the Kentland Mansion Show. We have asked Susan to put on a virtual presentation using the software app called Zoom. Susan has agreed to do a virtual presentation to discuss her views of the show and what inspired her to select artwork for awards within the four media categories.

This virtual presentation that she will be doing will begin on Saturday - April 25th at 3:00 pm. Please prepare to sign on about 20 minutes prior to the presentation using the software APP called Zoom. In order to participate in this presentation, you don't need to create a Zoom logon and let me say that the use of Zoom for everyday use is free. Use the link below to see a short training video on getting into Zoom and joining a meeting.

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193>

Zoom allows many individuals to communicate with each other thru their computer. Please try to use a computer that has a built-in camera, that way everyone that joins the virtual meeting will be able to see you.

More information will be emailed to you prior to the online presentation but additional details will be emailed to you as we get closer to the day of the presentation.

Hope to see you soon !!

Bob Maarsen
VP of Shows.GFAA



Kentlands Best in Show, "Italian Village" by Ken Bachman

Please go to our web site,
<https://www.gaithersburgfinearts.org/>
to see the Kentlands Mansion show
award winning art.

Presidents Message

Life seems difficult right now, I know. People are stuck indoors without many of the reasons this planet is such a wonderful place to live. Where we have spent years being told human contact is what allows us to thrive, we have now been told quite the opposite. We isolate ourselves from the world relying on modern technology to keep us connected. In some ways, this is a miracle. Looking back on human history, we have the ability to be more connected than ever without leaving our homes. Even ten short years ago, this would not have been possible in such a way. Video chat was only for the technologically savvy, FaceTime was but a dream in the making, and online ordering was complicated and time consuming (if available at all) before such companies as Amazon became a household necessity. The point being, that somehow, even through our trials and tribulations, we have what we need to persevere. Whether this is a Divine Comedy or a Divine Tragedy, we are always given what we need. That isn't to say it isn't difficult in times like these. Life is about contrast. Without the sad, there can be no joy. Without fear, there can be no courage, and without death there can be no life.

I am not sure how many of you know this but our organization is 43 years old. We are not the oldest in the region but we are older than most. We were around when VCR's became a thing and when remotes had 10 - foot cords. We were around for the microwave going into almost every home in America. We were around for the beginning of the cell phone and even when home computers became a reality. When we began, the population of the world was only 4.213 Billion. Our world is almost twice that big now. We continued to thrive through the cold war and even the beginning of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. We all wept together as we witnessed the Challenger explode on our TV's in 1984, and we all held our breath together as the towers fell on September 11, 2001. And yet we kept going. We kept making our art.

Seemingly small in comparison, yet a huge accomplishment none the less, our organization has been showing at the Kentlands Mansion for almost 40 years. The things we faced only made us better and stronger artists and human beings. All of this time, we have grown and changed, keeping up with the times with brave artists willing to stand up and give the organization the support it needed in any given moment.

We have always been an intimate group of artists willing to persevere. While there are many art groups in the area to join and participate in, there isn't really another organization like ours. GFAA is the only 2D Fine Arts Association in the area. This allows us to focus on a limited area of art. It allows us to bring more relevant speakers to all of our members. With our limited focus there really is something at every meeting for everyone. Our workshops are able to be on target for members goals and all of our shows are available to be open to all members. That is not to say other organizations don't do these things, just simply that in ours, we are stronger together because of our commonality.

I realize there is a global crisis going on right now, this crisis is temporary. Life will go on as it always does, and full busy lives will resume shortly. The crisis I want to focus on right now is one that will impact you all long after this virus is but a memory. Back in February, the GFAA Board, put together a nominating committee to build next year's Board of Directors. So many of us cannot continue for various reasons, and while my husband is doing his best, our website and social media are already suffering for it. So, amidst a global crisis, Jeanne Powell, Jaree Donnelly, and Rafael Galan, emailed and called all of you. They were doing their best to save our organization. Many of you turned the positions down and almost as many of you didn't respond at all. Only one person stood up and said yes. Gail Kaplan-Wassell volunteered to be our Secretary. Thank you so much Gail! Unfortunately, this is not enough to run our organization and unless some of you step up now, we really will be dissolving on August 31, 2020.

This means no more meetings, no more workshops and no more shows. The Meeting House Show set for September, will be cancelled. The show at the Delaplaine set for December 2021, obsolete. Below is a list of the

positions we have empty and a note about which are vital to continuing. Please consider saving this organization. I know I will miss it if it is gone. I am sure you will as well.

Only You, Personally, Can save GFAA.

Board Members will have the power to delegate work to assistants or the committees everyone signed up for last year. Board meetings can be in person or online. Many discussions are by phone or email.

All Board Members will need to spend about 10 hours between now and September 1st training on Wild Apricot.

President – We must have a President. The President-elect will have to do very little until late summer, at which time the virus will have run its course. Anyone who becomes President will have all the help they need from the rest of the board members including me. The by-laws and procedural manual were all finally completed this year, so we have everything laid out to make it easier than ever!

Job Description - Shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the GFAA and shall, in general, supervise the business affairs of the GFAA. Except as provided in these Bylaws, and unless expressly prescribed by the Board of Directors, the President shall have the authority to act on behalf of the GFAA and shall perform all duties incident to the office of President. The President shall be a member ex officio of all regular, standing, special, ad hoc, or other duly authorized committees, and shall be notified of all committee meetings. It is not necessary for the President to be present for Volunteer Committee meetings but shall receive minutes regarding their content. The President presides over all meetings of membership, the General Board, and the Executive Board, calls special meetings, calls votes, and shall generally direct the activities of the group. The President acts a spokesperson for the organization. In the absence of the treasurer, the President is authorized to write checks.

Treasurer – We must have a Treasurer. The Treasurer's job is simple. Keep the books.

Job Description - Shall collect dues, pay expenses, keep records and report the financial status of the GFAA at the monthly Board Meetings. All checks shall be signed by the Treasurer. In absence of the Treasurer, the President may sign checks. Responsible for having President's signature on record with the bank. Responsible for electronic payments. Prepare an annual report due to the executive board at the last Board Meeting of the year (In May) If there will be no final Board Meeting in May, then the report will be due to the Executive Board no later than May 1 of each year. In the absence of the Secretary, The Treasurer shall perform all of the duties of the office of Secretary. The Treasurer shall also perform such duties as the Board of Directors may direct.

Membership – Membership is an interesting position, with our new software, membership can be managed easily. The busiest time of the year of course, is August through October. Position has a volunteer committee to delegate work as needed for support.

Job Description - Shall register members and visitors at all meetings and provide appropriate forms and information for membership to interested parties. Maintain registration and "Good Standing" information. Update and share current list at each monthly board meeting. Updates the GFAA email list. Recruits new members. Works closely with the Treasurer. Manages Membership Volunteer Committee. The Membership Chair shall also perform such duties as the Board of Directors may direct.

Publicity – Publicity is important but not essential. I would like to point out however, without publicity; very few will see our shows.

Job Description - Shall maintain communication with any and all outside media sources necessary to publicize GFAA happenings. Manages Membership Volunteer Committee. The Membership Chair shall also perform such duties as the Board of Directors may direct.

Web Master - We must have an Online Presence The Web Master need be computer literate but not an expert, and again, all the blueprints and templates are in place. It will mostly be filling in and sending information and of course, you will have help. This position can be combined with the Social Media Guru since most things done on one platform are repeated on the others. Please note, website knowledge is not required. The new system makes the website easy to maintain and you will receive all the training and support you can handle.

Job Description - Shall manage the maintenance and changes to www.gaithersburgfinearts.org. Manages Website Volunteer Committee. The Web Master shall also perform such duties as the Board of Directors may direct.

Social Media Guru - We must have an Online Presence. The Social Media Guru is responsible for our Facebook, Instagram and any other social media platforms the Board chooses to use in the future. Our current Social Media Guru, Devon, has a well written and easy to understand format of ideas and procedures for what we do on these platforms. You will have this as well. This position can be combined with the Web Master since most things done on one platform are repeated on the others.

Job Description - Shall manage any and all social media accounts the GFAA Board of Directors decided to utilize. Manages Social Media Volunteer Committee. The Social Media Guru shall also perform such duties as the Board of Directors may direct.

So, if you love this organization, or if you just want to see our wonderful group continue, please contact us. I am extending the vote until June 1st. Whether we fill the docket or not, the vote will take place on that day. If we have enough Board Nominees to continue the group, we will announce the vote to the membership. If we do not have the required people, the Executive Board will take the necessary steps and vote to dissolve our wonderful organization. Please contact your nominating committee representative (they have already reached out to you) when you are ready to volunteer or if you have any questions. If you want to talk about what it is like to be on the Board please email us at gaithersburgfineartsassoc@gmail.com and one or several of us will get back to you. If everyone waits for someone else to do it, GFAA will die.

I wish I had a more upbeat message about spring but that wasn't possible this time. There's no other way we can keep going.

Thank you.

Your President
Sandra Fretwell

GFAA Board of Directors 2019-2020

President	Sandra Fretwell	Membership	Sandra Fritter
VP Shows	Robert Maarsen	Social Media Guru	Devon Gonteski
VP Programs	Valerie Haber	Newsletter Editor	Darla Tagrin
Treasurer	Ursula Dehejia	Past President/Advisor	Susan Bradley
Advisor to the Board		Bill Mapes	

Send email to gaithersburgfineartsassoc@gmail.com

The Kentland Mansion Juried Exhibit

Please don't let the COVID-19 virus dampen your spirits. We have an ongoing exhibit at the Kentlands Mansion and we should be celebrating and congratulating the award winners.

Let me give a big shout out to all the winners of the 2020 - 34th Annual Kentland Mansion Juried Exhibit.

Artist	Artwork Title	Award\Media
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Best in Show

Kenneth Bachman	Italian Village	Oil
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Water Media

Jeanne Powell	St. Rita's (Nice)	1st Place in Water Media
Robert Maarsen	Jam Session	2nd Place in Water Media
Mak Dehejia	Morning Glow #2	3rd Place in Water Media

Oil/Acrylic

Bill Mapes	David with Grey Jacket	1st Place in Oil/Acrylics
Isabella Martire	Determined	2nd Place in Oil/Acrylics
Perry Kapsch	Farmer's Market in July	3rd Place in Oil/Acrylics

Dry Media

Ellen Sherfey	Enduring	1st Place Dry Media
Marie Riccio	Contemplation	2nd Place Dry Media
Sandra Schraibman	Archway to the Sea	3rd Place Dry Media

Mixed Media

Linda S Sherman	Mechanical Crab	1st Place Mixed Media
Estelle Zorman	Calling All Angels	2nd Place Mixed Media
Gail Kaplan-Wassell	Wave	3rd Place Mixed Media

Honorable Mention

Hang Nguyen	New York Winter	Oil\Honorable Mention
Matthew D Baker	Folly Beach at Dusk	Oil\Honorable Mention
Betsy Baden	Waiting	Collage \Honorable Mention
Noelie K Angevine	Sunset, Coming Rain	Watercolor\Honorable Mention

We **CAN NOT** pickup artwork from the **Annapolis Show** or the **Kentland Mansion** because these facilities are closed. I have been in contact with the gallery staff at both locations. When the virus all clear is sounded and they finally reopen these facilities, I will email everyone and try to schedule a take down and pickup.

Bob Maarsen, VP of Shows/GFAA rmaarsen@verizon.net

From the Editor's Desk

GFAA keeps me going. The thought that it might not be there, a light at the end of the tunnel, makes me feel like giving up.

I know for a fact that there are lots of people in our group that are more creative, competent, and just smarter than I am. Probably it's most of you.

It would be a lifeline for me if you could help keep GFAA going by serving one term on the board. The rest of the board will do everything we can to help, and we are not expecting perfection from anybody. Please email me at DarlaT@aol.com if you are considering it.

Events and Opportunities

Bethesda Urban Partnership Trawick Prize & Mural Opportunity

We are looking forward to visual art bringing our community back together again soon. Please review our Calls for Artists and consider applying to the upcoming [Outdoor Mural](#) at the Woodmont Avenue Garage and/or [The Trawick Prize](#) opportunity.

The deadline for both art initiatives is Monday, May 4, 2020.

Call [301-215-6660](tel:301-215-6660) or 301-215-6664 or email info@bethesda.org

Events and Opportunities, continued

Susan O'Neil Online Classes

I sincerely hope this finds you all well and safe during this strange time we find ourselves experiencing. In support of the Art League in Old Town, Alexandria, I have been inspired to venture into the online classroom possibilities. If you are interested in attending, please see the links below.

Please stay well. All my best,

Susan O'Neill

<https://www.theartleague.org/shop/class/online/expressive-figure-drawing-copy/>

<https://www.theartleague.org/shop/class/online/expressive-watercolor-copy/>



Figure Drawing Simplified: Essential Stages to Drawing an Expressive Figure From Start to Finish

<https://www.theartleague.org/shop/class/online/expressive-figure-drawing-copy/>

This five-week course will cover basic but fundamental lessons. Each class presents lessons that are easily achievable and not overwhelming.

Each week will present a lesson, practice session from live model, and optional homework. Model fee is included in class price.

Week 1: Gesture, Landmarks, and Form boundaries

Week 2: Understanding Light and Shadow

Week 3: Modeling Form and the Figure

Week 4: Heads, Hands, and Feet

Week 5: Expressive Finishing Techniques

This online class will be taught through the video-conferencing platform Zoom, and your teacher will use Google Classroom or email to facilitate further communication with you and your classmates.

A supply kit will be available to order through the website soon.

[There is a small tuition scholarship fund for qualifying furloughed workers and front-line workers tuition.](#)

\$120

5 sessions

Begins: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 2:00 pm — 4:30 pm

For more information, contact The Art League School at 703-683-2323.

More Events and Opportunities



Plein-Air Watercolor: *Inspirations from your Window*

Capture the magic of spring right from your window or in your yard. Learn to paint Plein-air with simple materials. This five-week class will focus on the expressive qualities of watercolor and how to capture the life and energy of your subject. Each week will present inspiring subjects that you will easily find and create within your own views.

Learn to find the essentials in any scene, and paint loosely.

It is not the highest degree of technical skills that are needed to create the most beautiful work of art but the understanding of how and why artwork can captivate the viewer.

This online class will be taught through the video-conferencing platform Zoom, and your teacher will use Google Classroom or email to facilitate further communication with you and your classmates.

<https://www.theartleague.org/shop/class/online/expressive-watercolor-copy/>

A supply kit will be available to order through the website soon.

[There is a small tuition scholarship fund for qualifying furloughed workers and front-line workers tuition.](#)

\$100

5 sessions

Begins: Monday, April 20, 2020 2:00 pm — 4:30 pm

For more information, contact The Art League School at 703-683-2323.



Amateur artists 50 and over are invited to enter their best works in the **Beacon's 2020 Celebration of the Arts**, an online art competition, open now through April 30.

Due to health concerns and closures we have extended our online competition through April 30, 2020. Entries must be photos of original works created after the age of 50. Individuals can enter

works in one or more of seven categories, up to three items in each. Each category will have its own entry link. For information, go to <https://thebeaconnewspapers.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c66554d3e2b1618b5499119c3&id=a010ba392b&e=cad2aafb9a>

More Events and Opportunities



While our members at TAG/The Artists Galleries are sequestered in their studio and practicing social distancing (the photo below was taken almost a few weeks ago but it seems like a lifetime) we have had to close the doors to our gallery at 216 North Market and will remain closed until our lease ends on April 30.

This unfortunately includes cancelling the closing reception to our [current exhibition](#) where we were hoping to greet our fans and other art lovers and say goodbye to our space together. If you have your eye on a piece and were thinking of purchasing it please send an email to tagfrederick@gmail.com or by calling 301-696-8187 and leaving a message.

We have decided to hold off on moving to a new space until the situation around the virus and the economy improves. But we will reopen! In the meantime we are planning to continue to send out monthly newsletters about what our artists are working on and any online exhibitions we may host.

Thank you to all of you for your support over the years! We look forward to your continued support as our future evolves.

TAG Members

Baltimore Watercolor Society Mid Atlantic 2020 Juried Exhibit

This exhibit will now be held ONLINE only

Entry deadline May 1, 2020

ONLINE EXHIBIT JULY 1 - AUGUST 31, 2020

The prospectus is available at:

<https://bws.wildapricot.org/resources/newsletters/2020-BWSMid-AtlanticProspectusWEB.pdf>

MODIFICATIONS TO PROSPECTUS: All paintings must be for sale and priced consistent with a gallery presentation. Size restrictions of paintings still apply. All sale inquiries will be routed through BWS, and a 20% commission will be taken. The 20% commission applies to sales from the notification date through September 30.

<https://bws.wildapricot.org/event-3633015>

More Events and Opportunities

CALLING ALL FEMALE ARTISTS – SUBMISSION DEADLINE EXTENDED TO APRIL 30!

WHY I VOTE

September 11, 2020 - November 16, 2020

Activity Center at Bohrer Park, Gaithersburg, MD

Call Deadline: April 30, 2020

Notification of Jury Results: By the third week in May

In commemoration of the ratification of the 19th amendment to the Constitution which gave women the right to vote on August 18, 1920, the City of Gaithersburg will be hosting a “WHY I VOTE” exhibit in conjunction with the Washington D.C. Women’s Art Caucus.

The Call is being published through Entry Thingy. The description and link to the application is provided below. Clarification: You do not have to join the Washington D.C. Women’s Art Caucus to participate, but you may find it an organization that you have an interest in.

If you have any questions about the above, please contact Mary Weiss-Waldhorn, the City of Gaithersburg Art Curator, at marywaldhorn@gmail.com.

Our tentative reception date is Saturday, October 3 from 1-4pm. If you know of any speakers who might be interested in addressing this topic during our event, please contact Mary Weiss-Waldhorn at the above e-mail address.

HOW TO APPLY:

Please go to the EntryThingy website to apply: <http://www.entrythingy.com>

You may also apply through the Washington DC Women’s Art Caucus website: <https://www.wcadc.org>

Exhibit Location: City of Gaithersburg gallery at the Activity Center at Bohrer Park, Gaithersburg, MD.

Juror: Anne Burton, curator at the BlackRock Center for the Arts galleries in Germantown, Maryland. The exhibit is co-organized by Sandra Davis (WCA) and Mary Weiss-Waldhorn (City) and will be held at the Activity Center at Bohrer Park.

Montgomery County Clean Water Art Contest

The deadline April 30, 2020 at 4:00pm EST.

The Clean Water Art Contest seeks to use art to educate the public about the connection between our communities, streams, and the Bay. The winners will see their art painted on storm drains. This year we expanded the places where art may be displayed to include trash cans and bus ads in the County! Because of this we re-branded the name of the contest to the Clean Water Art Contest.

Any resident of Montgomery County, MD may enter. All ages can submit art, however, entries by those under 18 years of age require a parent or guardian signature.

For more information, go to <https://mygreenmontgomery.org/art/>