MANASSAS ART GUILD INC.

Newsletter

October 2025

Manassas Art Guild, Inc. • PO Box 3565 • Manassas, VA 20108 • www.manassasartguild.com

BOARD MEMBERS

President:
Laura Lavarnway
Vice President:
Stephanie McGee
Treasurer:
Peter Smolens
At-Large:
Maureen Guillot
1 Vacant

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Artist of the Month:
Rebecca Neiss
Continuing Shows:
Laura Lavarnway **(acting)**
Membership:
Josie Tullo
Newsletter:
Michele Frantz
Programs:
Michele Frantz **(acting)**
Publicity/Marketing:
Vacant
Shows:
Vacant
Website:
Chris Mendaros
Workshops:
Laura Lavarnway **(acting)**

From the President

MAG had our first meeting in our new location, the ARTfactory. It was a great meeting; the guest speaker was Jordan Exum, the ARTfactory's gallery director! Drawing on her many years of experience selecting artists for exhibits, Jordan shared her insights on what galleries are looking for, how to approach them, what they expect from the artist, and more. She gave some really useful tips on what and what not to do when approaching a gallery. She has also offered to come back in November and show us how to use Instagram to help promote our work. Stay tuned for details.

On another note: I have been president since 2012, and since then have been filling many other positions as well. I would really like some help! If you take a look at the list on the left, you will see how many positions are either vacant or being (reluctantly) filled by members who have other jobs already. Please consider volunteering to help your Guild thrive and grow. More information about this on the next page.

-- Laura Lavarnway, President, MAG

October Meeting

Our membership meeting will be earlier than usual this month since the ARTFactory is being transformed into the "Horror Hotel" (!) for Halloween.

The program will be our annual "Halloween Musical Art!" As usual, MAG will supply three different art materials: colored pencils, watercolors, and acrylics. We'll be playing Halloween music, and when the music stops everyone switches tables and starts working on a different painting. Afterward we pick numbers, and participants win one of the pieces of art (example at right). It's a lot of fun.



The meeting will be on
Sunday, October 5, 2-4 p.m.
at the ARTFactory,
9419 Battle Street, Manassas.

Member news

Welcome to our four new members! They are: Raghad Almofeez, Arlene Hermansen, Roza Sharifi, and Karen Suarez. They work in a variety of media; we are looking forward to getting to know them and seeing their art. A new membership directory is attached to this newsletter.

Raghad has already distinguished herself; she was the winner of the *Paint!* Manassas "paint off" on Saturday, September 20! Her winning submission was "Church on Church," below.



Another member, Michele Frantz, was a runner-up, along with Robert Dew from the Prince William Art Society.

Paint! Manassas will be on exhibit at Grounds Central Station in Manassas until November 17. Several other MAG members are participating; stop by and take a look!

Congratulations also to the members who were juried into the ARTFactory exhibit "What the Walls Remember." The reception is October 11 from 6 to 8 p.m., and the show will be up until November 8.

If you have any member news you'd like to share, please email it to Michele at myarcadia2@gmail.com. It's always inspiring to see what other members are up to.

Upcoming meetings

MAG has a new home! Monthly meetings are now at the ARTfactory, 9419 Battle St., Manassas.

Meetings will be on Sundays from 2 to 4 p.m. Normally they will be on the third Sunday, but there may be exceptions. Here is the schedule for the rest of this year:

October 5: Halloween Musical Art!
November 16: Learning Instagram!
December 14: Christmas Party!

Volunteers needed

As noted before, MAG has a lot of vacancies! Among other things, a lack of volunteers means that the Guild is less effective at offering learning and exhibit opportunities to our members. Also, our president is acting in (too) many of the positions and would really appreciate some help.

Props to new member Rebecca Neiss, who has volunteered to take over as Artist of the Month coordinator. Kudos also to Maureen Guillot, who has been our newsletter editor since 2012. She has finally stepped aside, but we appreciate all she has done.

Fortunately, Michele Frantz has volunteered to take up the newsletter. However, that means her former position as Program Coordinator will soon be open. If no one takes this over, we may just do critiques or draw at every meeting.

Members can share a job! If several people took turns planning, say, workshops, it would be easier for all. So please, take a look at the openings, and see what you can help with. Contact Laura at 703-801-3607 or laura.lavarnway@comcast.net; she'll be happy to hear from you!

Membership fees are now due

Thanks to everyone who paid their membership fees in September, we had a record renewal! Dues are good for one fiscal year (September 1 through August 31). If you joined after January you are good for this year. You can pay at the membership meeting or send it to our P.O. box:

MAG
P.O. Box 3565
Manassas, VA 20108

If you are not sure if you need to pay, please email Josie Tullo at josephine.tullo@gmail.com and she can check when you joined.

Individual fee: $30.00. Senior (60+): $20.00. Make checks out to Manassas Art Guild.

Art Opps

If it's fall, it must be art show season.....

CALLS FOR ENTRIES:

- *Small Works Show,* Warrenton (11/19-12/15)
  Entries accepted October 4-November 1
  SEE ATTACHED FOR DETAILS

- *Manassas Fall Gallery Walk (*11/8, 10-4)
  MAG will be exhibiting at Centerfuse.
  Contact laura.lavarnway@comcast.net

SHOWS TO ATTEND:

- *What The Walls Remember* at the ARTfactory
  Reception: October 11, 6-8 pm
  Exhibit: October 11-November 8

- *Art at Annaburg Manor*
  Reception: October 24, 5-7 pm
  Exhibit: October 25-26, 12-4 pm

- *Paint! Manassas* at Grounds Central Station
  Exhibit: Now until November 17
  Awards Presention: November 8, 1 pm

Artist of the Month

October's featured artist is MAG's very own hard-working president, **Laura L. Lavarnway.**

Says Laura: "I have always been interested in art. While in the military, I received an associate's degree in art from Los Angeles City Community College in 1983. I went on to get a bachelor's degree in information systems and started working with computers. While raising a family, I had little time for art. I got started in art again when I took a beginner watercolor class from local Manassas artist Michele Frantz. I enjoy painting in watercolor and acrylic and like painting en plein aire when I can. I joined the Manassas Art Guild and became very involved. For 13 years I have been the MAG President and prior to that I was the vice-president. I enjoy promoting the arts and working with fellow artists."

Stores where we display:
Jirani Coffeehouse, 9425 West Street.
Grounds Central Station, 9360 Main Street
ARTfactory, 9419 Battle Street
The Things I Love, 9084 Center Street
Black Metal Mercantile, 9105 Center Street



Upcoming AOTM:
November: Josie Tullo
December: Bethany Richard
January: Karen Suarez
February: Rebecca Neiss
March: Lisa Stewart
April: Peter Smolens
May: Michele Frantz
June: Josie Tullo

If you would like to be an AOTM, please contact Rebecca Neiss at rebeccaneiss9@gmail.com to get on the schedule.

Warrenton Small Works Art Show



CALL FOR ENTRIES

HOW TO REGISTER

To all artists: we are now seeking applications for our Small Works Art Show! Artists may enter up to 3 original pieces of two-dimensional art works in acrylic, oil, watercolor, drawings, encaustic, printmaking, pastel, or mixed media (no photography or digital art). Minimum size (Not including outside frame dimensions), 5" x 5"; maximum size (Not including outside frame dimensions), 11" x 14". Maximum price for art is $100.00. Note: Art will not be accepted that is priced over $100.00 for this exhibit.

Entry Fee: Non-refundable registration fee $35.00 for up to 3 pieces of art for jury consideration. Sales will be processed by Cast Iron Craft House and a 10% commission of sales will be collected and donated to Warrenton Art Commission.

Go to: https://form.jotform.com/252217486637161

Digital image files should be in JPG format, not larger than 1200 pixels or 4.2 MB
and named as follows: Lastname-Firstname-TitleOfArtwork-Size-Price.jpg.
Example: Smith-Tom-Sunrise-20x24-$99.jpg

For additional information or help email artshowva@gmail.com.

KEY DATES

Accepting entries: October 4, 2025 to November 1, 2025.

Judging: November 2, 2025 – November 10, 2025. The panel of artists will jury the show. Ribbons will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 3 honorable mentions. These paintings will be displayed in the front of the restaurant.

Notification of accepted work by email: November 12, 2025

Drop-off dates: Sunday, November 16, 5:00 to 6:00 pm or Monday, November 17, 10 to 11:30 am.

Location: Cast Iron Craft House, 11 South 2nd Street, Warrenton VA 20186

Show dates: Wednesday, November 19, 2025 to Sunday, December 15, 2025 open daily during normal restaurant hours.

Pick-up dates: Monday, December 15, 5:00 to 6:00 pm or Tuesday, December 16, 10:30 to 12:00.

EXHIBITING REQUIREMENTS:

Artwork will be checked at drop off location for compliance with the following requirements. (Noncompliant Artwork will not be accepted).

- Only artwork listed on the exhibition acceptance list will be accepted. No substitutions.
- Clean, without damage, dry, securely supported, and without any loose/hanging parts or unfinished/sharp edges.
- Visible or gallery-wrapped edges must be fully painted over the sides or finished in a solid color.
- Suitably framed with securely attached screw eyes, D-rings, or Nielsen hangers for metal frames, and hanging wire with <30° slack and not reaching above 1" below the top edge of the frame. No sawtooth hangers.
- Labeled on back with artist name, title, medium, size, price, and contact information.
- Original, signed by the artist and created within the past 3 years.
- Source and reference material must be free of any copyright or trademark infringement.
- Must be available for the duration of the exhibit and must be for sale.

WAIVER

All possible care is given for the artwork on display at Cast Iron Craft House. However, artists display at their own risk. None of the entities involved are responsible for any damage, loss or theft to artwork. By participating in this show you acknowledge volunteers hanging art and the employees of Cast Iron Craft House are not responsible for the art.