

Art of the Lakes

April • 2020

Art of the Lakes • 108 Lake Ave S • Battle Lake, MN

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AOTL and COVID-19

John Olesen • AOTL Chair

I've been wanting to give our members an update on plans at AOTL during the COVID-19 pandemic.

I wish that this update was full of solid, date specific plans for the gallery and all the other Art of the Lakes events . The problem with making plans around a global pandemic is that nobody has done this before, so we are all just guessing about what's going to happen next and things are changing day to day.

The Governor of Minnesota has announced that bars and restaurants will be closed until May 1 for sure, and possibly a good deal longer. I realize Art of the Lakes isn't a bar or restaurant, but we will be closed the month of April, too. As for being open in May, scheduling the AOTL annual meeting in May, spring gallery setup, and new work hanging: These things will have to be determined on an event by event basis. We are too early in the pandemic to know where we'll be in a week much less a month.

My thinking on how we will decide when to be open and what workshops are possible to have, and whether or not the Studio Tour or Art and Craft Affair will happen is as follows: I think we need to recognize the majority of our members are in the highest risk group when it comes to the most serious health risks associated with COVID-19. All reasonable medical advice predicts that this is going to be a long hard road. I think as long as the CDC and MN state health department recommend social distancing, we shouldn't be asking our members to work in the gallery.

As far as decisions on workshops, we have to wait and see. Maybe we can take some precautions and still have them, but it is too early and too changeable right now to say. I'm not even going to speculate on Studio Tour and Art and Craft Affair as of right now. Things are proceeding for the short term as if those events will happen as scheduled.

This is new territory and we really need everyone to be safe and follow the recommendations provided by the CDC and our Health Departments.

If anyone has questions or concerns please feel free to contact me Email: johnolesen@whitepinestudio.com or my cell phone (218)405-0234.

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AOTL Contacts

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The mission of Art of the Lakes is to develop, promote, and encourage an interest in the arts in the area through art exhibitions and art related education activities for people of all ages.

Art of the Lakes is funded in part by a grant from the Lake Region Arts Council through an appropriation from the Minnesota State Legislature.

The Dish from Debbie

Debbie Ness • AOTL Administrator

Check out the Art of the Lakes website for updates and the new tabs:

Boredom Busters

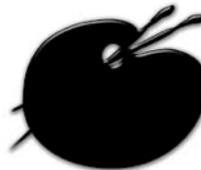
A page where you can find activities to keep busy during the social distancing

The Opportunities Tab

There are calls for art/artist input there

- We are looking for artists to brighten our FaceBook page with whatever art they are creating. Your images, videos, poems, etc. can also be emailed to the gallery, and I can post them.
- With the COVID-19 outbreak, the gallery will not be open until further notice.
- Artists should consider participating in the **Night To Shine — “Unmasking Mental Health,”** the June 6th masquerade auction and gala hosted by Lake Region Healthcare.

The AOTL will receive 10 hard plastic Venetian masks to be creatively decorated. They can be painted, glued on, etc. anything you can come up with! We would love to include information about where you came up with your idea and inspiration. Check out at their website: <https://www.lrhc.org/night2shinegala/>



AOTL ARTISTS:

If you have an upcoming show or presentation, or if your art is being featured somewhere, let us know so we can give you some ink!

email: thimgan@digitaljam.com

Making: Small Acts That Amplify

Kristi Swee Kuder

The Covid-19 pandemic has forced all of us to dramatically adjust our lives in ways we never expected. Forced isolation, anxiety and uncertainty have greatly upset our daily routines. We know that making art can be powerfully cathartic and healing. We use art to deal with the stress, confusion and the unknowable that can result from startling events such as this pandemic. Art helps us communicate and process things we normally can't voice.

Art of the Lakes is seeking art that will speak directly to this turbulent period in our history. *Making: Small Acts That Amplify*, is an exhibition of small artworks, 12" x 12", that express a response to this challenging period of time due to Covid-19.

We challenge you to examine, with an open mind, humanity's response to this life-disrupting force. How could you, through your art, amplify some aspect of this swirling experience? Are there emotions in our society, such as outrage, sacrifice, compassion or hope, in response to the pandemic? Is there a way your art could capture or reveal tranquility to calm the anxiety? Would humor help erase the cynicism? What questions or dialogue could your art invoke? What materials, medium or technique will magnify your message to others? How could you interpret these times as a marker in history?

In her remarkable essay titled *Making Not Knowing*, artist Ann Hamilton writes: "Every act of making matters. How we make matters... [T]here are multiple possibilities for a lifetime of making: make a cup, a conversation, a building, an institution, make memory, make peace, make a poem, a song, a drawing, a play; make a metaphor that changes, enlarges, or inverts the way we understand or see something. Make something to change your mind — acts that amplify."

We're looking to you to make art that changes the way we understand this transformative moment in our history: *small acts that amplify*.

The opening reception is proposed for August 13 but may be redefined as this pandemic progresses. The show will run until September 18, 2020. Because we are looking for artistic effort from all walks of life, this is not a juried show for entry but there will be prizes awarded. Awards: \$250 award for Best In Show, two \$100 merit awards.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Open Call: April 1, 2020

Call Deadline: July 21, 2020

Delivery of Artwork: Wed.-Tues., July 15 - 21, 2020 during gallery hours 10-6 pm

Exhibition Dates: Friday, August 7 - Saturday, Sept. 18

Exhibition Reception & Awards: Tentatively Thurs., Aug. 13

Pickup of Artwork: Fri. & Sat., Sept. 25 - 26 during gallery hours 11 - 5 pm, or by appointment

Return Shipping: Beginning Sept. 21, 2020

For more information about this call and to download the submission form go to

<https://www.artofthelakes.org/opportunities>

Making: Small Acts That Amplify

August 7 - September 18, 2020

Dunlap Gallery, Otter Tail County Historical Museum, Fergus Falls

Opening Reception, Tentatively Thurs., August 13, 5-7 p.m.

Don't Forget:

Artist Feedback Forum

Studio K/Kaddatz Gallery • Fergus Falls

When: Third Thursdays

For more information:

kathrinemcdowell@gmail.com

Perham Area Art Group

Perham Public Library

meets every Saturday from 10:00 – 11:30

Watercolor, ink, pencil, pastels, etc. – all are

welcome, all skill levels welcomed. No

instruction or cost

Please call Catherine Erickson –

218-298-1517

Artist Gathering at Glendalough

The Artist Gathering at Glendalough is temporarily suspended. Watch your email and newsletter for when it will resume.

The AOTL Needs YOU!

Our organization is in need of:

Webmaster

person in charge of our website content

2D Chairperson

in charge of the committee who hangs the gallery in May and also keeps up if there are new pieces brought in

Membership Chairperson

sends welcome letters and trains new members

Hospitality Chairperson

oversees/coordinates refreshments and supplies for member meetings



Join AOTL Weekly Summer Gatherings

Important Note:

Because of the virus, be sure to check in advance that the events are taking place.

Tuesdays

9:00-12:00

Sketching Group • locations notified in advanced

Thursdays

5:00-7:00

Art of the Lakes Demonstrations • AOTL Gallery



AOTL Board Members

John Olesen, chair (2022)

Diana Fuder, treasurer (2019)

Craig Haukebo (2020)

Annette Hochstein (2020)

Kristi Kuder (2020)

Ruth Hanson (2022)

Mary Loecken (2022)

John Shaw (2022)

Jon (JT) Thompson (2022)

AOTL 2020 Summer Workshops

		Time	AOTL Member Fee	Location	Min/Max
June					
10	Kim Bakken-Parr • Sami Bracelets w/ Silver Beads <u>contact</u> Sandy Thimgan: 218-862-5594 or thimgan@digitaljam.com	9:00-3:00	\$75 + 25 supplies	LACC	5-12
15-17	Michael Holter • Landscapes for the Intermediate to Advanced Watercolor Artist <u>contact</u> Sandy Thimgan: 218-862-5594 or thimgan@digitaljam.com	9:00-4:00	\$310	LACC	10-16
TBD	Brad Wegscheid • Garden Sculpture <u>contact</u> Brad Wegscheid: 218-640-0631 or brad@wegscheid.net	TBD	TBD	White Pines Studio	
July					
9	Mary Jo Wentz • Intermediate Alcohol Inks <u>contact</u> Nancy Little: 612-889-9517 or nalittle321@gmail.com	12:00-3:00	\$75	LACC	6-12
12	Phelps Mill Art Festival		\$10	Phelps Mill	
17-19	Art of the Lakes Studio Tour				
21	Ruth Hanson • Watercolor Batik <u>contact</u> Judi Celaschi: 480-861-0941 or JudiCelaschi@gmail.com	10:00-4:00	\$55	LACC	10-12
August					
3-4	Nancy Little • 2 Day Beginners Mosaic Workshop <u>contact</u> Nancy Little: 612-889-9517 or nalittle321@gmail.com	9:00-4:00	\$150	Little Studio	8-12
8	Art of the Lakes Arts & Crafts Festival			Railroad Park • Battle Lake	
15	Michael Weatherly • Mono-Printing <u>contact</u> Michael Weatherly: 612-385-1851 or mweatherly56235@yahoo.com	9:30-12:00	\$55	AOTL Gallery	5-15
18	Marcella Rose • Masterpiece Abstract Works <u>contact</u> Judi Celaschi: 480-861-0941 or JudiCelaschi@gmail.com	9:00-4:00	\$180	LACC	
24-26	Bonita Roberts • Pastel Landscape Painting <u>contact</u> Annette Hochstein: 218-864-8281 or sasafra@arvig.net	9:00-4:00	\$175	LACC	7-12
September					
12	Sue Kalseim • Alcohol Ink Jewelry <u>contact</u> Sue Kalseim: sue@sueellengifts.com	TBD	\$55	AOTL Gallery	