

Art of the Lakes

June • 2018

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

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Put on Your Calendar!

You are hereby invited to
AOTL's summer picnic!

When: Tuesday, June 19, 5:30 p.m.

Where: 304 Jefferson Avenue North,
Battle Lake (Reba & Craig's house)

What: Potluck – Bring a generous dish
to share: appetizer, main dish, salad, or
dessert

This is the perfect chance to visit and
mingle with friends old and new, meet
our new interns, and enjoy a summer
evening out.

Join Mary Williams for a weekly sketching
afternoon. Meet at AOTL gallery on June 19th at
1:00. Mary says: "We will see who shows up and
what the group wants to do!" Sounds fun.

AOTL Contacts

AOTL Administrator:

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aotl@arvig.net

AOTL Chair:

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marylynn Dahl@hotmail.com

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Sandy Thimgan
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donna@trumanrc.com

Newsletter Editor:

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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.

“I Buy Art” Benefits All

by Kristi Kuder

The *I Buy Art Campaign* is up and running and this year we are encouraging **ALL AOTL members** to participate. This effort is an important way to bring awareness to the valuable contributions artists and the arts make to our region. And, we believe, it is an effort that benefits both artists and local businesses.

Members: during the month of June we want you to reach out to the local businesses whose services you use and ask them to support you by providing a **discount or special offer to anyone wearing an I Buy Art sticker during the last 2 weeks of July (July 20-31)**. Think grocer, coffee shop, hardware store, hairdresser, bakery, restaurant, dentist, yoga studio, etc. In return they will get **free promotion** during this year’s Studio Tour, July 20-22nd, as well as extended promotion at Art of the Lakes throughout July.

You will need an *IBA (I Buy Art) Offer form* for each business to complete which you can pick up at the gallery or download a pdf from the artofthelakes.org website found at the bottom of the *Studio Tour* page. **All forms need to be completed and turned in to Reba by June 30th.**

Beginning with the Studio Tour on July 20th, anyone buying \$10 or more from Studio Tour artists will receive a sticker and a listing of all businesses participating in the campaign. Stickers can also be acquired at the gallery with any art purchase over \$10 until the end of July 31. We believe that because Art of the Lakes is one of the participating businesses, all members will benefit from this campaign.

Please join with your fellow AOTL artists in making this effort a success.

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

Important Stuff

Gallery Workers:

If you can't work your shift for some reason, you need to find a replacement. You might contact:

Diana Fuder
Craig Haukebo
Sandy Thingan

The rate is \$8 per hour times the number of hours in your shift.

As soon as you arrive on your work day, turn on the Shopkeep program first — it takes a while for the computer to communicate with its connection devices. In this way, the program is ready the moment you open the gallery front door.

Keep our gallery looking fresh with new art pieces. Remember to change your art if it has been in the gallery for two years and not sold. This includes 2D, 3D, and jewelry.



AOTL Artist News

Becky Albright and her Gyotaku art were featured in the Spring 2018 issue of the Alexandria magazine *Definitive Woman Magazine*.

Gyotaku (pronounced ghee-yo-tah-koo) is an age old Japanese printmaking technique in which the artist inks a freshly caught fish and applies the fish to paper or fabric creating a unique print.

Her work will be featured at both the New York Mills Cultural Center and the Henning Landmark Center in July. And, of course, her work also graces the walls of the AOTL Gallery.

Deb Connolly was juried into the Red River Watercolor Society's 25th Annual National Juried Watermedia Exhibition, Moorhead, MN. The exhibition runs June 18 — August 4. The opening reception is June 19th.

She also has a solo show at Prairie Arts & Gifts (formerly Prairie Renaissance Cultural Alliance), Morris, MN. The exhibit runs May 23 – June 30th. The opening reception will be June 7, 5:00 -7:00 p.m.

Mary Jo Wentz's art piece, **Prairie Grasses**, the MState Purchase Award winner for the 2018 M State Invitational Art Show. Her fiber art will become part of MState's permanent collection. Prairie Grasses is currently included in the 2018 M State Invitational Art Show now on exhibit in the Charles Beck Gallery, Fergus Falls, MN. There was a public reception for the artists in May.

Kriste Swee Kuder's exhibition **Down to the Wire** will be at the Kaddatz Gallery, Fergus Falls, June 7-July 12. Please join Kristi at an Opening Reception June 7, 5-7pm with an artist talk at 6 pm.

"In my art, time finds a record within the materials I use by incorporating repetition into process. My work is the result of a painstaking laborious means. Using eyebrow tweezers, I deconstruct wire mesh. Thread by thread. This repetitive act is both meditative and obsessive and is an act of constructive thinking and deconstructive speculation." — Kristi Kuder

Barbara LaValleur is the featured artist at the Red Door Art Gallery and Museum in Wahpeton, ND. Her exhibit, **A Photojournalist's Retrospective** will run May 30 - July 28. Please join her at the artist's reception on June 7, 5:30-7:30 pm

Meet Our Interns

AOTL is excited and delighted to introduce our two art interns who will spend the summer with AOTL.

Claire Weyrauch

Home town: Brooklyn Park, MN
Education: Graduate of the University of Minnesota Duluth, BFA in Studio Art

My art: primarily drawing, mostly portraits, and some landscape painting. I'm a cartoonist.

Hoping to learn: how galleries are run, what it's like to work in a professional art setting, ways to improve my art or experiment with new styles



Lisa Kovacs

I want to give a warm greeting to the Battle Lake community! I'm 21 years old, and one of the new summer interns for Art of the Lakes. I was born in California and lived there until I was 5 years old. My family moved out to Minnesota to Eden Prairie before settling down in Saint Michael! I attended Saint Michael-Albertville High School before getting accepted at the University of Minnesota-Morris. I just finished up my 3rd year at UMM where I am majoring in both studio art and art history. The mediums that I work with the most for studio art are photography and printmaking. I try to combine the photos that I take of old family photos with hand-cut block prints.

What I hope to learn from my internship with AOTL is gallery work, communication, and more about the arts' place in a community. I will be going to grad school for art history. I'm hoping the experience at Battle Lake will help me decide on what my future career will be! I either will be working in a gallery/museum or become an art history professor. Other fun facts about me is that I love dogs, movies, videogames, and relaxing with a good book at a coffee shop. If you see me on the streets or working,



AOTL Board Members

- John Olesen, chair (2019)
- Diana Fuder, treasurer (2019)
- Sandy Thimgan, secretary (2019)
- Mary Dahl (2018)
- Sharon Fleischauer (2018)
- Stephen Henning (2019)
- Craig Haukebo (2020)
- Annette Hochstein (2020)
- Kristi Kuder (2020)

AOTL Annual Meeting

by Reba Gilliland

We missed those of you who couldn't come to AOTL's Annual Meeting on May 15. President John Olesen set the stage on planning for AOTL's future with a presentation, "Where are we, and Where are We Going? Part 1: The Arts Landscape in 2018." Here's a summary:

Assessment of the Current Arts World that pertains to us:

- Update on AOTL's current state
- The world of the Arts in our geographical area
- The world of the Arts in our region

A look at what other arts organizations in small MN towns are doing:

- Lanesboro Arts in Lanesboro with a population of 754 people located on the Root River
- North House Folk School and Grand Marais Art Colony in Grand Marais with a population of 1,351 people located on Lake Superior
- Milan Village Arts School in Milan in southwest MN with a population 369 people

The look at each, including:

- Mission
- Classes and programs offered
- Numbers of personnel running the operation: staff and boards of directors
- Operating budgets: Revenue from Earned Income and Grants/Donations

What Battle Lake is envisioning for the Future:

Concluded with questions to ponder in preparation for Part 2 of AOTL's future planning

Given the area's changing Arts landscape and AOTL's changing needs, we as members need to visualize a new future.

Are there things we can learn from successful arts organizations in other small MN towns?

- What features of arts organizations presented tonight might work here and why? What might not work here and why?
- What other models should we consider?
- What assets do we have as an arts organizations that make us unique?
- What assets does Battle Lake have that makes it unique?
- Are there ways AOTL can integrate with the town or with the Hatchery Row vision?
- Does Battle Lake have what we need to grow? Are other locations an option?

Thanks!

(because volunteers never get thanked enough)

Thanks to
Sharon Fleishauer
for housing the interns
this summer



AOTL Featured Artists for June



Jodi Peterson
June 1-15

Jodi Peterson, Moorhead, MN
Artist's Statement:

I find glass to be an exciting medium. I have been working with glass for over 18 years and started Wolfnest Glassworks about the same time as I fell in love with glass. I blow glass occasionally and mostly slump, fuse and do flame worked pieces from beads to small sculpture. Slump glass is placing glass on a mold/form and heating it up to a temperature that relaxes the glass into the mold. Fused glass is heating the glass to a temperature that melts the glass together.

Glass had been around for a long time. The Egyptians were fusing glass and blowing glass making vessels and other objects after they realized that heating sand from their fires produced glass. Glass is amazing, when hot it moves like molasses and when cold it's solid. Light gets refracted through glass showing dazzling colors for the eyes. When I work with glass there seems to be a kinship with ancient glass artisans that touches me on a soul-filled level.

Donna Dean
June 16-30

Donna Dean, Alexandria, MN
Artist's Statement:

After her North Dakota upbringing, Donna Dean ventured to Northern California and stayed for many years, developing a Graphic Art career and pursuing fine art as well. Returning to the Midwest, she settled in Alexandria, MN, where she met a wealth of fine artists and local art clubs that filled her life with good friends, learning, exhibiting and receiving recognition for her art. Watercolor, her first medium, lends itself to randomly splashing color, and allowing the abstract results to suggest development of an often curious, mystical subject. To assist in her desire to charm the viewer's own imagination to engage, she has added acrylic, collage, clay and mixed media. Donna muses, "I very much enjoy the process, but more importantly, for the larger part of my life, painting has fulfilled my deepest longing to create and express."



Donna Dean • "Friends with Wings"



For Sale:

450-1 Logan Elite Matt Cutter
(one year old)
\$150

Barbara La Valleur

C: 612-578-2422

barbara.lavalleur@gmail.com

Artists:

Do you have some art "stuff" that is gathering dust in your studio? If you have some art supplies that you would like to sell, trade, or give away, this is your opportunity.

contact: thimgan@digitaljam.com

Other Area Workshops:

Developing a Sound Working Studies for Pastel Paintings

Value Masses — Not Subjects

Judy Wegenast

June 13-14

Forest Edge Gallery, Vergas, MN

contact:

Forest Edge Gallery

218-342-2681 or 218-849-7449

AOTL June Workshop Schedule

(See Workshop brochure for detailed information)

Oil Portrait Study from Life

Myron Sahlberg

June 1-2

contact person:

Bonnie Pfeffer

218-770-2676

djp@digitaljam.com

Watercolor, Fresh and Expressive

Tom Francesconi

June 11-14

contact person:

Della Conroy

320-287-1414

dellaconroyart@gmail.com

Clay Sculpture

Mary Williams

June 15, July 20

contact person:

Terry Oscarson

218-583-4145

toscarson@arvig.net

Realism through Design

Sandra Barnhouse

June 26-27

contact person:

Janet DeMars

480-829-9265

janetkdemars@hotmail.com