



FOCUS

SUMMER 2018

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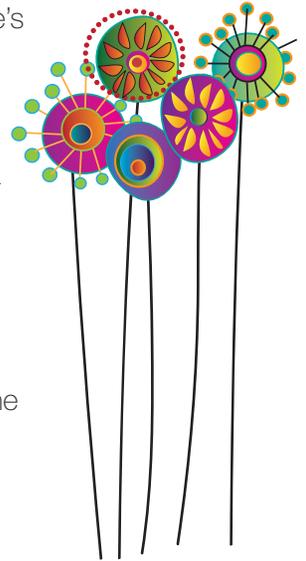
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serving the KIA, our members and the community since 1955

Special Brunch | Annual Meeting **Wednesday, May 23 | 10:00 am**

It's new! Share a morning with members and guests at Art League's first ever Membership Brunch. After a brief meeting to elect new Board Directors, there will be time to chat over coffee and enjoy a leisurely brunch of quiche and other treats with long-time friends and new. You will be seated at a table hosted by a Board Director who welcomes suggestions and your thoughts about Art League. Find out about some of next year's exciting programs featuring brilliant speakers on interesting topics. Take a chance on a one-day raffle. Invite a guest to come too—we'll welcome newcomers with an extra smile. There is no admission fee, but to be kind to the cooks, reservations are required. **Please RSVP by May 17.** Be sure to tell us how many people are in your party by emailing your reservation to ArtLeagueKalamazoo@gmail.com or calling the Art League info-line at 269 585-9296.



Diane Eberts

A Message from our President

Dear Art League Supporters,

We have had a terrific season of lectures and an enjoyable depARTure to Ann Arbor. We are looking forward to the Annual Meeting and Brunch on May 23. Please RSVP for this event. Join us to meet and elect your new board, preview next season's lectures, renew membership, and learn about new benefits and summer events. Thank you to our volunteers who have helped with greeting at the membership table over the 2017-2018 season. The enclosed remittance envelope makes it easy to renew your Art League membership and if returned by June 8, you're eligible to receive one guest pass for the 2018-2019 season.

A thank you and farewell to our Vice President, Jennifer DiGiuseppe, who has been such a support and hard worker on the board these past four years. We wish her the best and look forward to seeing her at our events.

Diane Eberts





Studio Tours were a “new” idea until past President Joy Light reminded us of an “old” Art League excursion program much enjoyed by members. So, we are happy to say, **“Studio Tours are back!”**

Studio Tours will take us on field trips to meet award-winning regional artists, and to learn about their work. We’ll see the environments in which art is created, and will learn about the thoughts, philosophies, and skills the artists bring to their work.

Unlike depARTures, which are open to all, **Studio Tours are an Art League members-only benefit.**

Yes, that means no guests—you must be a current member to be eligible to enroll! Also, there is no bus ride; participants will drive to the studios where parking will be convenient and ample for our small group size.

As a courtesy to the artists, and to make sure each participant enjoys the experience, enrollment will be limited to 20 persons or fewer at each Studio Tour.

An optional lunch or dinner at a nearby restaurant will cap each event, with the artist as our guest. The Studio Tours series will take place in May, June, and July of this year. A non-refundable fee of \$20 per tour will be collected with enrollment forms which are available at the brunch, KIA reception desk and KalamazooArtLeague.org.

Thank you artists! The highly acclaimed and very busy artists who have graciously agreed to open their studios to Art League this summer are Valli McDougale, Mary Brodbeck, and Jerry Bowman.

Enroll now...space is limited!



Valli Thayer McDougale

Contemporary Watermedia and Collage Artist

Studio Tour | 10:15 am | **Thursday, May 24**

Limit 20

Upon her retirement from the University of California San Francisco, Valli Thayer McDougale pursued a life-long passion to study watercolor painting. Though starting at an age younger

than Grandma Moses, Valli says she plans to continue to paint forever! In her Gull Lake studio Valli now paints and collages using various water-based mediums, creating paintings that range from abstract to realistic, and very large to miniature. One of her favorite statements about art comes from Edward B. Lindaman: “One of life’s most fulfilling moments occurs in that split second when the familiar is suddenly transformed into the dazzling aura of the profoundly new.” Valli has achieved signature status in the National Watercolor Society, and her work—held in collections throughout the United States—has won awards in national, international and regional juried art competitions from San Diego to Cape Cod.

The Mission of the Kalamazoo Art League is to fund, organize, and sponsor an annual lecture series and other activities to promote understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of the visual arts.

We value and actively support diversity and inclusion on the Board, in our membership, in the lecture series and other programs we offer.

Mary Brodbeck

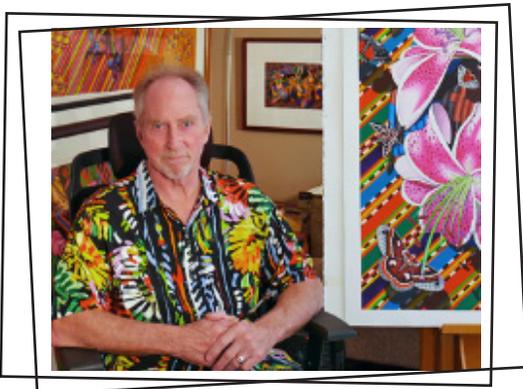
Japanese Woodblock Printmaker

Studio Tour | 4 pm | **Thursday, June 21**

Limit 15



A designer in the West Michigan furniture industry for dozen years—many of her designs hold US patents—Mary Brodbeck shifted to image making in the 1990s. Mary studied Japanese woodblock printmaking in Tokyo with Yoshisuke Funasaka on a Japanese government BUNKA-Cho Fellowship in 1998 and obtained her MFA from Western Michigan University in 1999. Her landscape woodblock prints have received critical acclaim in both Japan and the United States. The *Autumn, Sleeping Bear Dunes* series, created 2006-2008, is in the permanent collection at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Mary exhibits her work widely and teaches Japanese woodblock printmaking through public workshops, college and university courses, and private lessons. Her latest major project, *Becoming Made*, a documentary film about the creative process, is deemed “Highly Recommended” by Video Librarian.



Jerry Bowman

Watercolor Painter

Studio Tour | 11:00 am | **Thursday, July 19**

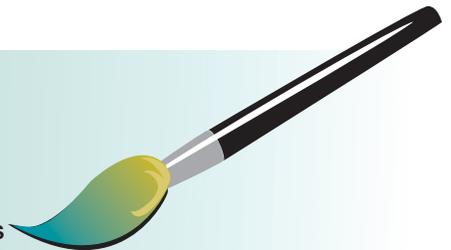
Limit 20

Informed by his career as research scientist, Jerry Bowman’s watercolor paintings often feature animals and other creatures. The paintings are extraordinarily large for watercolor, and they always celebrate his love of color, pattern and unusual composition.

Jerry’s paintings incorporate images of carvings, masks, bowls, and musical instruments, along with textiles and found objects from the natural world. While his work explores everything from flowers, to people and abstract constructions, his main focus remains on cross-cultural concepts. He has been awarded many prizes in national and international shows. Recently he has been invited to participate in the 2018 Missouri Watercolor Society International Exhibition in Quingdao, China.

Art League Supports Art Students

Art League’s endowment of a KIA scholarship fund continues to help local artists. In early May the Kirk Newman Art School will announce the coming year’s Art League Scholarship winners. Look for their names at KalamazooArtLeague.org.





Kalamazoo Art League
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Kalamazoo, MI 49007

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**Art League memberships
are valid for a 12-month
season that begins on
July 1 through June 30.**



ART & ARCHITECTURE IN CHICAGO

Sign up now for a Drive & Cruise depARTure
September 20, 2018

This depARTure will take you to the Art Institute of Chicago's first major exhibition of John Singer Sargent's work in over 30 years. ***John Singer Sargent and Chicago's Gilded Age*** showcases the full range of the artist's talent, with 100 objects from the Institute's collection, private collections, and public institutions. It examines Sargent's remarkable breadth of artistic accomplishments, and for the first time introduces the artist's impressive "Chicago story." Then, after a delicious Italian dinner at Quartino Ristorante, you will embark on a Chicago Architecture Foundation Twilight Cruise to see the city, "serene and bathed in softer light" as its "architecture takes on a whole new life in the setting sun." We'll provide snacks on the bus, and you can take a snooze as we drive home. **Enroll by August 17!**

Art League: \$XXX

KIA: \$XXX

Non-member \$XXX