



Calendar

**Next Member Program
Laura Pollack - Reception
& Demo**

May 16, 2024 (In-Person)

[Get more information](#)

Laura Pollack Workshop

Fri-Sun, May17-19, 2024
(In-Person, Richmond)

[Get more information](#)

**Cedarfield Retirement
Community, Members Exhibit**

May 1 - August 30, 2024

[Get more information](#)

**Purcell Gallery at Louisa
Art Center, Annual Members
Judged Exhibit**

Sept 28 - Nov 23, 2024

[Get more information](#)

Expressions newsletter will feature member's pastels each issue. Artwork for this issue is by Debbie Harding, *Daybreak Unfurled*.

■ From the President

As the year draws to a close, it's a time for reflection, gratitude, and transition within our organization. We bid farewell to several long-serving board members, individuals who have played pivotal roles in shaping and sustaining the foundation of our group. **Carol Cullinan** (past President for 2 1/2 terms and current Exhibit Chair), **Elizabeth Hood** (current Treasurer who has also served as VP/Program and Technology Chair) **Sheila Chandler** (current Technology Chair, past Secretary and Treasurer) and **Shavon Peacock** (current VP/Programs and past Membership Chair).

These departing members have been the backbone of our organization, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy, and expertise to ensure its growth. Their contributions have left an indelible mark. We extend our deepest gratitude for their invaluable service and leadership. Their legacy will continue to inspire and guide us as we move forward.

Amidst these farewells, it is with great enthusiasm that we introduce the incoming board members who have graciously stepped forward to carry the torch: **Alison Carter** (Secretary nominee) **Roxanne Genovese** (Membership Chair) and **Libby Mills** (Technology Chair). Their willingness to serve is proof of their commitment to our organization. We welcome them with open arms and extend our appreciation for their willingness to give their time and talents to continue our society's success.

While transitions can be bittersweet, we are pleased that some current board members will remain, providing continuity and stability during this period of change. I have been nominated as continuing in the President's role, **Judy Leasure** (current secretary) is nominated as

Continued on page 2

Member News

Carroll Pennington's painting "Mudflats at Fish Creek" was juried into *Southeastern Pastel Society's 2024* spring exhibition, *All About Pastels*. The reference photo was taken in Anchorage, Alaska where Carroll is originally from and goes back to visit in the summers.



Mudflats at Fish Creek

Get Involved!

MAPS needs your help to keep providing all of our great programs, workshops, website resources and exhibitions. Please consider volunteering where help is needed. Contact us at MidAtlanticPastelSociety.com.

VP and Chair of Programs, **Dornan Trainer** (formerly Membership Chair) is nominated for the Treasurer position and **Patti Jeffries** will continue as Newsletter Chair. This ensures the goals of our organization remain steady, regardless of some shifts in leadership. Together, we will continue as a solid team focused to make a positive impact on the pastel community and beyond.

It is a pleasure to have worked and continue to work with our members and I look forward to a year filled with growth, collaboration, and continued success.

Thank you, departing board members, for all you have done and welcome to our new board volunteers. Together, we will maintain the strength of our society.

Warmest regards,

Joan Dreicer

MAPS President and Workshop Chair

Art Ethics

Inspiration or Infringement: Is Someone Stealing My Work?

By Laura Pollack, PSA, PSWC, PSNC, PPS,
SPS, IAPS MC

Here is an excerpt from an article by artist Laura Pollack titled "Inspiration or Infringement." The whole article can be found on her website by [clicking here](#).

"Long ago, when I had my own ad agency and was in my twenties, I was asked to do a corporate brochure. I was thrilled, as it was a bit project and would bring us weeks of work. The client showed us a brochure with a style and graphics they liked and said, "we would like something like this..." It had never occurred to me that I was stealing someone else's work. I was too naive to realize the concept of creative rights.

This brings us to the question of inspiration versus copy versus stealing. As I was told in my advertising days, "There's nothing new

Continued on page 3

Upcoming Workshops



Laura Pollak

Richmond, VA (May 2024)

Colette Ody Smith

Richmond, VA (Fall 2024)

Aline Ordman

Richmond, VA (Spring 2025)

Karen Margulis Workshop

Richmond, VA (Fall 2025)

Adrian Giuliani Zoom

Winter 2025)

For more information about our upcoming workshops go to www.midatlanticpastelsociety.com/workshops.html

Welcome
New Members!

Lois Baird

Patricia O Davis

under the sun. It's just how we recombined old things." However there is a difference. The blog 1605 Collective sums this up best.

"When we are inspired by something, we take an idea or concept and make it our own. We build on it, adding our own unique perspective and creativity to create something new and original. In contrast, when we simply copy something, we replicate it without any original thought or innovation."

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

- **Know your original inspiration or image.** Always use your own reference...
- **Become copyrighted.** Register your works (perhaps as a bundle) with the Library of Congress...
- **Record keeping is a must.** Keep good records of the creation dates of your own works...
- **Know when to hold 'em and know when to fold 'em.** Sometimes it is worth the fight to retain copyrights over your work. And sometimes you must let it go...

Member News

Marshall McClure showed fifteen of her paintings at an exhibit at a neighborhood cafe, *The Starving Artist Café*, in Norfolk near Old Dominion University during the month of April.



Member Spotlight



Country Road Blues



Daybreak Unfurled



Jessi's Buddy



Winter Rhythem and Blues

Member Spotlight

Debbie Harding

Greetings from Berryville, I am so delighted to be a new member of MAPS. My husband, Casey, and I just moved to Berryville, VA in October of 2022. We made a huge trek across county to be near our son, daughter-in-law and grandson, but have also found many other pleasures in this area.

I began using pastels in 2008, when I stopped working as the Administrator of our long-term residential home for brain injured adults. I had tried oils a bit in the past, but as soon as I picked up the pastel, and saw how it was so versatile and easy to fit into a busy lifestyle, I was hooked. I loved how I could leave a piece of work on the easel, and upon walking past, stop for 5 or 10 minutes to adjust or add to. I didn't need hours anymore, to paint, because the pastels were handy, and I could clean up with a baby wipe. Happily, I spent more time creating.

I currently paint lots of landscapes, but I have tried most subjects. My style over these years has become more painterly. Years ago, I had read a quote by James Whistler, that went something like this... "Bring it out of the mist, and put it back in again." It's kind of cryptic, but at the time, when I was attempting this big change from too much focus on detail, It resonated with me; and, to top it off, I had just finished a large floral of a flower that I was so surprised to find is called, "love in a mist." I felt as though Whistler's quote was meant for me. Since then, I have been putting things in and out of the mist, over and over again.

Living in Santa Rosa, CA at the time, I became a member of the PSWC and was a part of several juried member shows, and a PSWC USA international show. I showed my work in a lot of various ways - art shows, galleries, and I also have my work decorating the maternity suites at Sutter Hospital and the halls of Spring Lake Retirement Village in Santa Rosa.

In 2018 we moved to Sequim, WA. What a visual feast, with the Olympic mountains on one side and the Strait of Juan de Fuca on the other! I was just minutes away from either. I taught classes,

Continued on page 5

Member News

Linda Wolitz

will have eight week summer pastel painting classes



on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays at the **Cultural Arts Center of Glen Allen**.

All levels welcome, weekly demonstrations. Call Linda at (804-262-5882) or [email](#) for information, but register at the **Arts Center**, 804.261.2787.

Elaine Bankston was one of eight women recognized (for her portraig of Oliver Hill) at the celebration in honor of *Women's History Month* at the Governor's Mansion in March.



painted en plein air, showed my work at galleries and events, and also began a new phase of my art career.

While in Sequim, I began to take my art online. I began a YouTube channel called "Pastel Tapas," and I started a Patreon Page. My Pastel Tapas channel is what I like to think of as, "the small bites of life, paired with pastels." I am so aware of the fact that my creativity does not begin in front of the easel, but rather when I am exploring the gift of our beautiful, created world. My Patreon Page came about so that I could share my pastel journey in more depth, especially creating demos of my painting process. When I was a little girl, I loved to sit on the counter and watch my mom cook, or watch my dad fix the car. You know, I learned so much just by observing. So, I invite my Patrons into my working environment to hang out and absorb whatever they can through the process.

Finally...oh, and this is so exciting...I was recently hired by Watermelon Park in Berryville, VA, to be their artist-in-residence! This is where Casey and I live right now, on the Shenandoah River. We are in love with this place, and now, I am blessed to work from home! When I look back over these past few years, and realize how I have worked so hard at all of my extra-curricular art endeavors, I am awed at how God has been fitting me for this job. I am now creating designs for new merchandise for them to sell, I will paint murals and signs, I will be updating and posting to their social media, and so many other things. It is a thrill to help this lovely and historic business to thrive.

My life has sped up, for sure, but I don't intend to stop my other activities - well, maybe they are slowing down a bit. And now, as a new member of MAPS, I am looking forward to meeting and getting to know other pastel artists in the area, and I do hope to be able to participate as much as possible.

Please visit me online. You can find me at these locations:

- DebbieHardingArt.com
- [YouTube.com/@DebbieHardingPastelTapas](https://www.youtube.com/@DebbieHardingPastelTapas)
- [Facebook.com/DebbieHardingFineArt](https://www.facebook.com/DebbieHardingFineArt)
- [Instagram.com/DebbieHardingFineArtPastels](https://www.instagram.com/DebbieHardingFineArtPastels)
- [Patreon.com/DebbieHarding](https://www.patreon.com/DebbieHarding)

Member News

Joan Dreicer



From Diana Sanford workshop



Surprise along the Hike



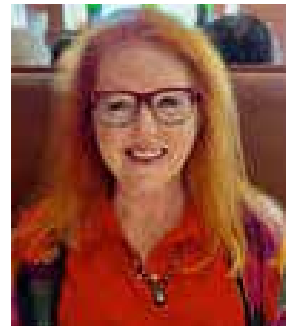
Peaceful Easy Feeling

Upcoming Programs

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024

**Live Evening Reception
with Laura Pollak**

(Demo) *Rock Paper Scissors*



During this demo, we will look at a landscape from *'Out West'* and look at the lights and darks on the rocks and landforms. **Laura** will do an exercise to isolate and group the lights from the darks, sort of cutting them apart. She will then proceed to do a quick block in painting quickly with large shapes, focusing on values. Learn more about Laura Pollak at **[Laura Pollak Fine Art](#)**.

Laura Pollack Reception and Demo

Time: 6 pm - 9 pm

This is a very special MAPS event and beginning at 6 pm we will socialize and enjoy refreshments. Wine, beer and heavy appetizers will be provided. We will have a short 5-minute MAPS meeting and then Laura will begin her demo. In Laura's demo, she will look at lights and darks on the rocks and landforms of a landscape from "out West." We will open the floor for questions following the demo.

Location: Hampton Inn & Suites/Richmond/Virginia Center,

1101 Technology Park Dr, Glen Allen, VA 23059.

Member News

Joan Dreicer was a participant in a Diana Sanford workshop titled *"Jam Session"* in Greensboro, NC mid-April. The goal was to leave the left brain alone and paint by responding to paintings rather than listening to the tiny voice in our head. It was a very emotional but fulfilling experience Diana was a wonderful teacher.

Joan Dreicer is exhibiting with the Piedmont Pastelists exhibit at **Cunningham Creek Winery**. The winery has beautiful views and on occasion, music, and food trucks. This exhibit will remain until July 6th.

Joan will also be part of an exhibit at **The Center of Belvedere**, Charlottesville, VA with the **BozART Fine Art Collective**. This exhibit is in

Continued on page 7

Member News

Members **Elizabeth Hood** and **Patti Jeffries** along with artist, Rosemary McKnight, held a three artist show titled *How We See It* at **The Gayton Kirk** gallery in Richmond from April 1-30. Elizabeth and Patti both sold pastel paintings.



Patti Jeffries' painting *Maggie's Gaze* was chosen to be part of the **Pastel Society of Maine's 24th Open Juried Exhibition**. Lyn Diefenbach was the judge.



conjunction with the Charlottesville Garden Club Dates - May 1 to June 30.

Joan participated in the **Plein Air Unleashed** 5-day

painting event in the northern neck. She will be traveling to Ireland in late July and in August to Blowing Rock, NC to paint plein air.



View from the Parkway

Members **Judy Leasure**, **Mel Neale** and **Jan Settle** each had a piece juried into the **International Association of Pastel Societies 44th Open Division** exhibit in Albuquerque, NM. Their paintings will be hung in the *2024 Pastelworld* show at the convention.

Plein Air Easton Festival

By Robin Ricketts



The **Plein Air Easton Festival** is a ten-day event that takes place every July in a little town in Talbot County, Maryland. Easton was settled in 1682 in the tidewater region along the eastern shore of the Chesapeake Bay. This year the Festival is July 12-21.

My family has lived in Easton for over forty years and Plein Air Easton was always something I enjoyed going to with my mother - not as participants, but as viewers. The week is filled with the opportunity to watch painters, listen to talks about painting, and wander through galleries full of artwork.

I recently discovered that the Avalon Foundation, the cultural arts center of Easton, produces a **podcast called Plein Air Easton**. The hosts interview artists from all over the country. They talk about where they find inspiration, taking risks, failing as a good thing, getting stuck and unstuck, marketing, and more. I'd recommend this podcast to any artist, new or experienced.

Current Exhibits

Cedarfield Exhibit Underway

The MAPS exhibit in the gallery at **Cedarfield Retirement Community** is now underway. Thirty four beautiful paintings from twenty MAPS artists are hanging for the Cedarfield residents and their guests to enjoy. Although this exhibit is not open to the general public, there have been sales to residents or their guests in previous exhibits. The exhibit will continue until August 31 when all unsold paintings will be picked up.

Member News

Roxana Genovese had two paintings juried into the **April 2024 Artists Choice All Media** at Fredericksburg Center for the Creative Arts.



Board Meeting



Sunbeam O'Clock

Upcoming Exhibits

FALL JUDGED EXHIBIT AT LOUISA ARTS CENTER PROSPECTUS COMING SOON!



The MAPS 2024 Fall Judged exhibit, *"Expressions in Pastels,"* will be held in the Purcell Gallery at the beautiful **Louisa Arts Center**, Louisa, VA from **Sept. 21 through Nov. 23, 2024**. Look for our announcement in late May that the prospectus has been posted on the MAPS website, with registration opening on June 21. Artists can register up to 3 paintings for this exhibit. Registration and payment fees will be online by credit card. The gallery's capacity ranges from 60-90 paintings, depending on the size, so there is plenty of room for the beautiful works our members create!

The center of performance and cultural arts in Louisa, VA, the Louisa Arts Center provides high-quality entertainment and art exhibits to the Louisa residents and those from surrounding areas. This exhibit will include not only the physical exhibit in the gallery but also a virtual exhibit on the Louisa Arts Center website, increasing the exposure of the artwork and offering an additional opportunity for sales.

This exhibit will be judged by **Colette Ody Smith**, a widely exhibited, award-winning painter, educator, and juror. Her selections for awards will be announced at the **reception at the Center on Sept. 27 from 6-8 PM**. Cash and merchandise prizes will be awarded along with lovely rosette ribbons.

The registration will be used to create the virtual exhibit as well as the inventory and wall cards for the physical exhibit, **therefore TBD paintings cannot be registered**. You'll need to have the title, size, and price of your paintings ready for the registration process.

It's time to get your beautiful pastel paintings finished and **photographed for the June 21 opening of registration**. I can't wait to see the wonderful artwork that our members always create! For questions, contact Carol Cullinan at chcullinan@gmail.com.

Bellemeade Event



■ Outreach Event

MAPS BELLEMEADE PLEIN AIR OUTREACH EVENT

Every year MAPS makes a charitable donation to an organization associated with the Arts. This year **Shavon Peacock**, our program chair, set up an outreach activity to share our love of pastel with 10 middle school aged children at **Bellemeade Park** in South Richmond.



Six MAPS members, Allison Woodward, Dornan Trainer, Patti Jeffries, Joan Dreicer, Shavon Peacock and Janet Clement, met Saturday, April 20 and began the day with two short demos on how to use pastels and painting on both non-sanded Canson and sanded UArt paper. The children had the chance to make their own pieces of plein air art in the beautiful rain garden of Bellemeade Park. They all jumped right in with the pastels, producing some wonderful and colorful paintings. We ended the day with pizza for everyone. MAPS purchased pads of 9 x 12 Canson paper and a set of 24 Blick pastels for each child to take home along with their artwork. We also had a raffle for a small set of pastels and an easel which were donated.

All of us who participated had an incredible day helping children who were very excited to share their art talents with us. The Bellemeade Park has a wonderful outdoor learning center program headed by "**Mr. Bob**" Argabright, who works to introduce his young group to experiences and adventures outside what they might otherwise have in their lives. Both the children and MAPS members had a wonderful and rewarding time.



MAPS Members Make Art Facebook Page

Our March winner was **Allison Woodward**. Congratulations!!!

Please join us our private Facebook page MAPS Members Make Art. You can post a painting each month for a chance to win a \$25 gift certificate to Dakota Pastels. We also encourage you to post workshop, books, material reviews, etc. If you are not a member of the FB page, request to join and one of the admins will approve you. You must be a MAPS member to participate on this page.

We also have our MidAtlantic Pastel Society Facebook and Instagram pages featuring artists, art tips, and news about pastel happenings outside our own society.

May is MAPS membership renewal month

We have simplified our [online renewal process](#) and you will now be directed through to the payment page where you pay by credit card.

Bylaw Changes

The following change to the ByLaws was approved by the MAPS Membership:

Article Three Officers Section 5: Elections of Officers

C. TERM

All newly elected officers' terms begin at the start of the fiscal year following the election and expire in two years. Officers may not serve more than two successive terms (4 years) in the same office. However, if a position cannot be filled at the end of the outgoing officer's two successive terms, the outgoing officer may continue for an additional term if approved by the Executive Board. If at the end of any board approved extensions, a successor can still not be found, the Board may approve additional extensions as needed.

The Nominating Committee was not able to find a nominee for the President position. Joan Dreicer, has agreed to continue in the President's position for an additional term, and the extension was approved by the Executive Board.

The MAPS Nominating Committee has prepared the following slate of Officers. The term for the Officers will start June 1, 2024, and end May 31, 2026. Watch your email for notification to vote. **Any non-vote is considered an affirmative vote.**

The Slate of officer that you will be voting on are:

President – Joan Dreicer

Vice President/Chair of Program Committee – Judy Leasure

Treasurer – Dornan Trainer

Secretary – Alison Carter

Thank you,
MAPS Nominating Committee
Sheila Chandler, Chair
Patti Jeffries
Dornan Trainer
Joan Dreicer, ex officio

2023-2024 Executive Board Members

PRESIDENT

WORKSHOP CHAIR

Joan Dreicer

jdreicer54@gmail.com

VP & PROGRAM CHAIR

Shavon Peacock

shavonandrew@verizon.net

TREASURER

Elizabeth Hood

elizabethhood@comcast.net

SECRETARY

Judy Leasure

leasure.judy@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Dornan Trainer

dornan.trainer@gmail.com

EXHIBIT CHAIR

Carol Cullinan

hcullinan@gmail.com

TECHNOLOGY CHAIR

Sheila Chandler

scjorlinz@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER CHAIR

Patti Jeffries

patti.jeffries@gmail.com

MEMBER RESOURCES

MAPS has compiled links for pastel and art resources on our [website](#).



Board Happenings

Our Board meeting held April 23rd at the Tuckahoe Library in Richmond. These are the highlights. The full minutes are always available to see on our website.

- 1) Membership** - We will begin accepting membership dues beginning May 1. We are now offer online credit card payment.
- 2) Workshops** - Laura Pollak will teach a workshop May 17-19. Year 24/25 includes **Colette Ody Smith, Adrian Giuliani** and **Aline Ordman** joining us as instructors. Click on their names for more info.
- 3) Programs** - our final program of the year will be in person and will include a reception and a live demo from Master pastelist Laura Pollak. Registration for this event will end at the end of day May 6th. Only registered members will be able to attend as we need an accurate count for the food order.

Programs for next year are being planned now and include a program about composition, a John Singer Sargent program led by Luana Luconi Winner and "thinking outside the box" discussion ideas and philosophies about art making with Adrian Giuliani.

- 4) Exhibits** - The Cedarfield exhibit registration has closed. The prospectus for the Louisa Art Center/Purcell Gallery (**this will be our annual judged exhibit**) will be coming soon. Registration will begin mid-June. There will be two steps to this registration process. Our technology chair, Sheila Chandler, is working to make registration as easy as possible for our members.

5) Technology - Sheila, our chair, has met with member Libby Mills and Alison Carter to review what the technology chair's responsibilities are. Libby has agreed to take the chair position for our next term. (Alison is our secretary nominee but interested in meeting with Sheila and Libby as well)

6) A pastel painting program was provided by six members of MAPS plein air, to the Bellemeade Community middle schoolers. We had such a wonderful time interacting with the young people, showing them a bit about pastels and plein air. They were so involved they barely stopped for pizza. We hope to be able to repeat this event.

7) Board - The board approved a third term as President for Joan Dreicer, (there was a bylaw amendment approved by the membership majority to allow this) as we were unable to fill this position. The ballot of officers is: President - Joan Dreicer, VP/Programs - Judy Leasure, Treasurer - Dornan Trainer, Secretary - Alison Carter.

8) The 2024/2025 Budget has been approved. Copies are on the website in the Members Only Section.

9) IAPS Convention - Joan Dreicer (Pres), Patti Jeffries (News) and Judy Leasure (Sec) will be attending the IAPS convention in Albuquerque, NM. We will have a table at an event called Siesta Night and we will be promoting our pastel society.