

THE CIRCLE OF ART

THE EDUCATION NEWSLETTER OF MAIN LINE ART CENTER WINTER 2017



New Classes • New Workshops • Art Terms • Crossword
Exhibition Opportunities • Cartoons • Student Spotlight
Ask the Artist • Word on the Street • BYOA, Grants and Selfies



GROWING YOUR ART

Welcome to the second issue of the Circle of Art, Main Line Art Center's educational newsletter. As we head fully into winter, a season when many plants and trees are unable to grow, I thought it would be a perfect time to think about how we can each grow our artistic potential. There is a principle of evolution that I once learned that surprised me, and I think it provides a useful clue to how we can flourish as individual artists and as a community of artists. Apparently, the greatest leaps in evolution do not take place when a species is living constantly under threat; instead, it is when their habitat is safe and stable that they can move beyond fight or flight reactions to the world around them and begin to experiment in ways that rapidly expand their capacities.

A founding principle of Main Line Art Center is inclusiveness. We have always placed an enormous emphasis on creating a safe environment for all people who enter our doors, and we continue to celebrate that principle in everything we do. However, I want to encourage you this semester to not forget about the other half of what helps animals in the wild, and I would say humans at MLAC, to grow: taking risks within that safe space.

Many students at MLAC can go for decades without ever taking a class outside of their favored medium or instructor. The devotion to your teaching artists and your craft that this shows is a beautiful expression of creative community that we also deeply honor at MLAC. But I want to urge you this semester to try something additional: consider adding a second class with a teacher you have never taken or in a medium you have never explored.

In this issue you will read about many new offerings and read about the journey of one of your fellow students. You will have the chance to test your knowledge of art jargon in our Circle of Art Crossword and hear how people from outside of the Center experience it in Word on the Street. Hopefully, you will also give yourself the chance to pick out and sign up for a class that you would never normally picture yourself taking. It could turn out to be the class that changes your life.

Thanks for joining us!

Best,
Dan Halprin
Director of Education

Cover Image: MLAC teaching artist Bernadette Curran: **Nesting Birds**
Previous Page: MLAC teaching artist Francine Shore: **San Miguel Alter**

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: AUDREY HIATT- SIMMS

A CONVERSATION BETWEEN AUDREY HIATT-
SIMMS AND DAN HALPRIN

**How Long have you been taking classes at
Main Line Art Center?**

11 years.

And how long have you been doing art?

I became an artist when I was 52, after I retired from the army. I had to take an art class at Simmons College. I was terrified.

It took me an hour and a half to draw a picture of fruit in a bowl, because I didn't think I could do it. Look at me now! (laughs)

It's hard to believe you felt that intimidated, but it's also not hard to believe, because it's always terrifying when you start. At that point, what was your favorite kind of artmaking?

Conte crayons...I love color.

What do you think has helped you the most in terms of growing as an artist?

I think the peace I find within me, because I suffer from PTSD, and Prozac would give me the chemicals to get through a day, but art gives me a reason for living throughout that day.

That makes total sense. Sometimes when I'm working on what are more obviously social justice issues, I'll think to myself that art is almost superfluous compared to people needing to eat, but art is there so you'll want to be alive from eating. It's food for your soul.

It is, and people need to find what makes their soul live.

So has there ever been a teacher who gave you the motivation to try something that you



Above: MLAC teaching artist Layne Freedline:
Oyster

never would have before?

Carol (Stirton-Broad), the mosaics teacher. She would let me come in and look and I would show her my bowls, so I made her a bowl once, and she said, "Why don't you try mosaics?"

I said, "What? Your students do a good job, but I don't think I could do that. It's too form-fitting..." and then when she showed me how I could do it, with freedom, that really got me interested.

That is awesome. If you were going to give advice to someone who was considering taking art classes, what would you tell them?

Take a deep breath...let it soak into your soul...and go for it.

(Continued on next page)

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: AUDREY HIATT- SIMMS
(Continued from previous page)

Right on. At this point, what is your favorite art medium?

I like drawing. It was really spiritual for me, taking it from Bob (Finch). I could see the piece come through me, and I told him that it was better than Prozac, and he said, "can I quote you?" and I said, "go ahead!" (laughs)

When you look at your art now compared to when you started, how do you think it's changed?

There's a lot of growth...I didn't ever think I would have the ambition, or the courage, to do what I'm doing now.

Sharon Bartmann taught me how to make little sculptures, with (armature) wires. That really opened up another part of my brain. And now I don't think that there's anything that I would not want to do in art.

That's wonderful that you feel that openness. I've heard people say that the real measure of your intelligence isn't how powerful your brain is, but how connected the different parts are. It sounds like you've activated so many connections.

Well, it made me a whole person. I think before, I was just living in the shadow of what I could be. Now I know what I can be, and what I will be, and I keep taking one step further.

You're also about to be one of the very first graduates of the MLAC Certificate Program. How has that impacted you?

It showed me different avenues in art, different perspectives, that I don't just have to put it on paper, I can feel it in my hands.

As you're coming to the end of the Certificate Program, do you feel like it's preparing you to go onto next steps in your art learning, in your artmaking?

Oh, yes. It's like reading a good book. And then you want to read the sequel to it, and just keep going and going...there's no end to art; only new beginnings.

That's really beautiful.

Thank you.

So if you were going to describe what Main Line Art Center means to you, or what defines Main Line Art Center, how would you describe it?

New life, because I went from a world of PTSD to loving myself and what I do.

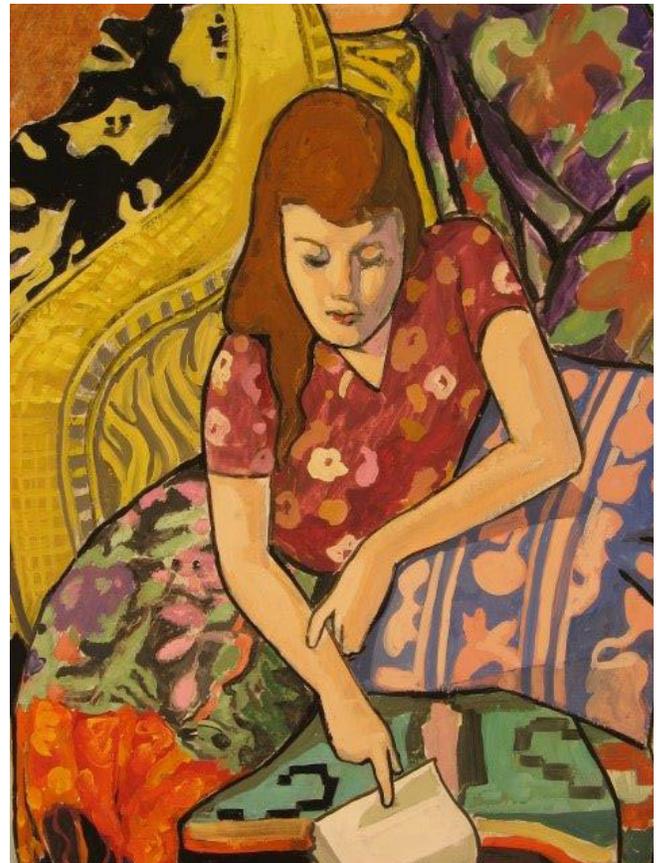
I am so glad.

I am, too. I feel like a new person. I am a new person.

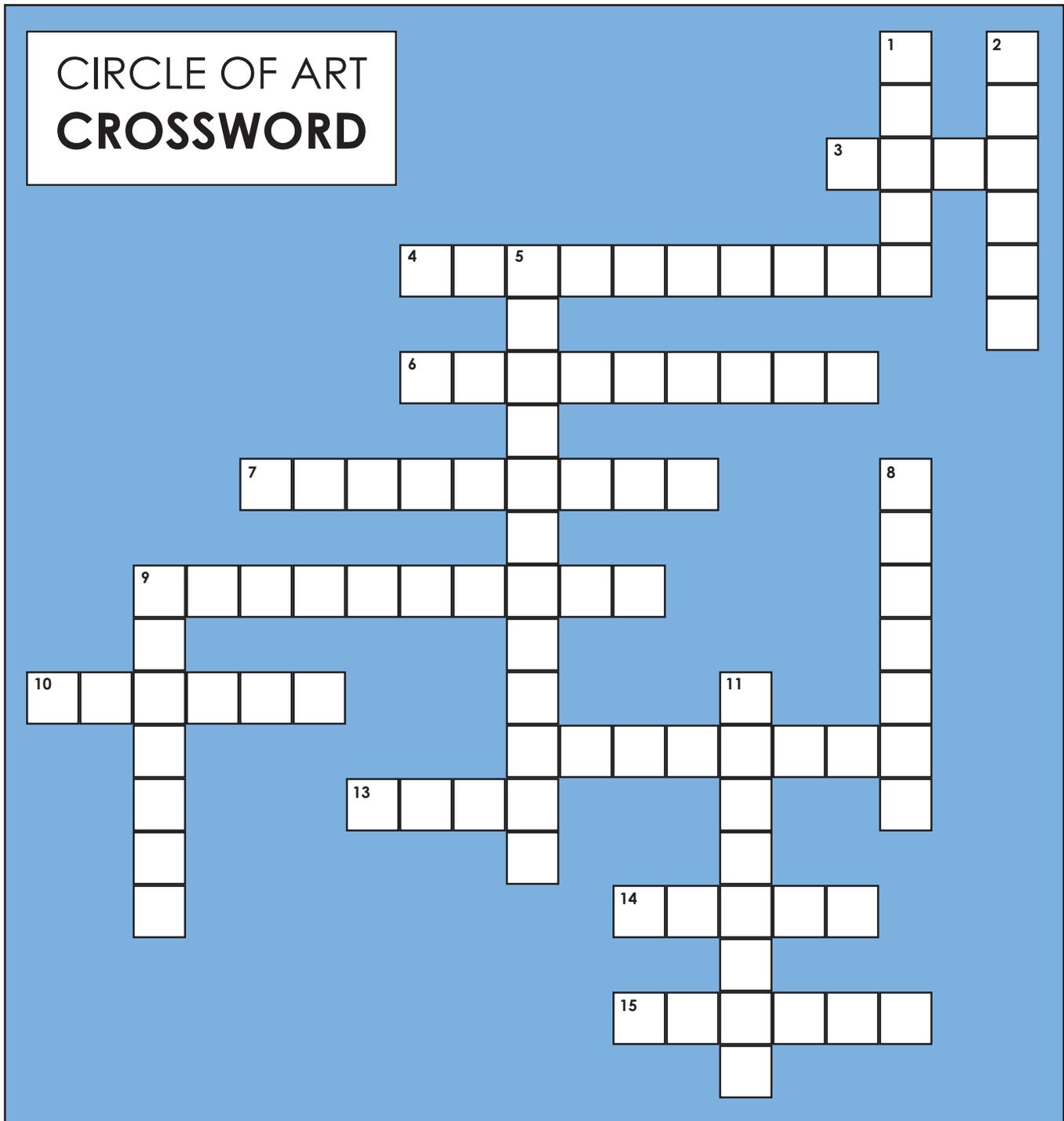
Thank you very much for this interview.

Thank you very much for interviewing me.

Below: MLAC teaching artist Bob Finch, *Untitled*



CIRCLE OF ART CROSSWORD



ART TERMS

ART BRUT

a French term that translates as 'raw art', invented by the French artist Jean Dubuffet to describe art such as graffiti or naïve art which is made outside the academic tradition of fine art.

Origin and Etymology: from Latin *encausticus*, from Greek *enkaiein* to burn in.

Source: Tate Museum

CIRCLE OF ART CROSSWORD

DOWN

- 1 Can serve to color, decorate or waterproof an item
- 2 A material used by an artist to make a work
- 6 Used in the visual arts to describe a human figure standing with most of its weight on one foot
- 7 Comes from the French: collar, 'to glue'
- 9 In spring, Main Line Art Center hosts a _____ Garden Party
- 10 A hole or opening through which light travels

ACROSS

- 3 _____-Edge Painting
- 4 Main Line Art Center has been offering _____ arts programs for 52+ years.
- 6 The most painterly method among the printmaking techniques
- 7 Joining 2 or more items (usually metal) together by melting and putting a filler metal into the joint.
- 9 Also known as screen printing or silkscreen
- 10 A writing implement or art medium constructed of a narrow, solid pigment core inside a protective casing
- 12 Shaping glass over molds at high temperatures
- 13 A sculpted or cast representation of the upper part of the human figure
- 14 Art making technique of wax-resist dyeing
- 15 A hand-tool used in printing and printmaking to break up and 'rub out' (spread) ink

ANSWERS ON LAST PAGE

Below: MLAC teaching artist Andrea Snyder: *In and Out & All Wrapped Up*



NEW ADULT CLASSES STILL TO COME:

SIGN UP NOW!

TIED UP IN KNOTS ON PURPOSE: CROCHET

Jessica Curtaz

Mondays, 1/23 - 3/6, 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Fiber Arts, Beginner

Member: \$144.00 | Non-Member: \$162.00

Note: No class 2/20 due to holidays

MAKING GOOD PHOTOS GREAT

John A. Benigno

Mondays, 1/23 - 2/27, 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Digital Arts & Photography, All Levels

Member: \$130.00 | Non-Member: \$135.00

Note: No class 2/20 due to holidays

CREATURE FEATURE: BEGINNING HANDBUILDING

Brad Hagmayer

Mondays, 1/23 - 3/20, 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM

Ceramics & Sculpture, Beginner

Member: \$288.00 | Non-Member: \$324.00

Note: No class 2/20 due to holidays

THE 21ST CENTURY - EXPERIMENTS IN MIXED MEDIA & COLLAGE

Andrea Snyder

Tuesdays, 1/17 - 3/14, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Print, Paper and Book Arts, All Levels

Member: \$297.00 | Non-Member: \$324.00

\$25 supply fee payable to instructor.

MAKING MODERN ON THE WHEEL

Bernadette Curran

Tuesdays, 1/17 - 3/21, 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM

Ceramics & Sculpture, All Levels

Member: \$360.00 | Non-Member: \$405.00

RAKU CERAMICS: PLAYING WITH FIRE DAYTIME

Sharon Bartmann and Marcia Reiver

Wednesdays, 1/18-3/22, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Ceramics & Sculpture, All Levels

Member: \$360.00 | Non-Member: \$405.00



Above: MLAC teaching artist Kassem Amoudi:
Song of the Reed

ACRYLIC STUDIO

Beverly Benson

Wednesdays, 1/18 - 3/8, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Drawing and Painting, All Levels

Member: \$264.00 | Non-Member: \$288.00

WATERCOLOR MEETS COLORED PENCIL

Eileen Rosen

Wednesdays, 1/25 - 3/1, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Drawing and Painting, All Levels

Member: \$198.00 | Non-Member: \$216.00

ART SAMPLER, STAGE TWO

Deena S. Ball

Wednesdays, 1/25 - 3/8, 1:30 PM to 4:00 PM

Drawing and Painting, Advanced

Member: \$192.50 | Non-Member: \$210.00

\$35 supply fee payable to instructor.

PHOTOGRAPHY & DESIGN

Robert A. Szatmari

Wednesdays, 1/25 - 3/8, 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM

Digital Arts & Photography, Intermediate

Member: \$273.00 | Non-Member: \$283.50

(Continued on next page)

NEW ADULT CLASSES STILL TO COME: SIGN UP NOW! *(Continued from previous page)*

EXPLORATIONS IN GLASS: WELCOME TO THE GLASS LAB

Wesley Valdez

Wednesdays, 1/18 - 3/8, 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM

Glass Arts, All Levels

Member: \$312.00 | Non-Member: \$324.00

STEP INSIDE THE EXPERIENCE: AN INTRO TO CREATING ART INSTALLATIONS

Susan Benarcik

Thursdays, 2/16 - 3/16, 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Ceramics & Sculpture, All Levels

Member: \$165.00 | Non-Member: \$180.00

Below: MLAC teaching artist John A. Benigno: **Storm, Monument Valley**



NEW WORKSHOPS

**AN INTRODUCTION TO LIQUID MAGIC:
A STARTER WORKSHOP IN DARKROOM
PHOTOGRAPHY**

Sarah Rafferty

Saturday, 1/28, 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Digital Arts & Photography, All Levels

Member: \$56.00 | Non-Member: \$64.00

**COLD GLASS CONSTRUCTION AND
MECHANICAL COMPONENTS: 2/11 & 2/12
and/or 2/18 & 2/19**

Wesley Valdez

Sat. 2/11 & Sun. 2/12, 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM
and/or

Sat. 2/18 & Sun. 2/19, 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Glass Arts, All Levels

Member: \$180.00 | Non-Member: \$216.00

Note: These prices are for 2/11 & 2/12 or for 2/18 & 2/19 only. Receive a \$5 discount if you register for both weekend workshops.

CONTINUING WITH ETEGAMI WORKSHOP

Nancy Bea Miller

Saturday, 2/4, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Drawing and Painting, All Levels

Member: \$39.00 | Non-Member: \$45.00

NEW CHILDREN & FAMILY CLASSES STILL TO COME:

SIGN UP NOW!

A STITCH IN TIME: EMBROIDERY (13+ YRS)

Jessica Curtaz

Mondays, 1/23 - 3/6, 4:15 PM to 5:45 PM
Fiber Arts

Member: \$132.75 | Non-Member: \$157.50

Note: no class on 2/20

CREATIVE ADVENTURES:FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN OVERCOMING CHALLENGES THROUGH ART & PLAY (2.5-6 YR)

Virginia Kendall

Fridays, 1/20 - 3/10, 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM
Mixed Media

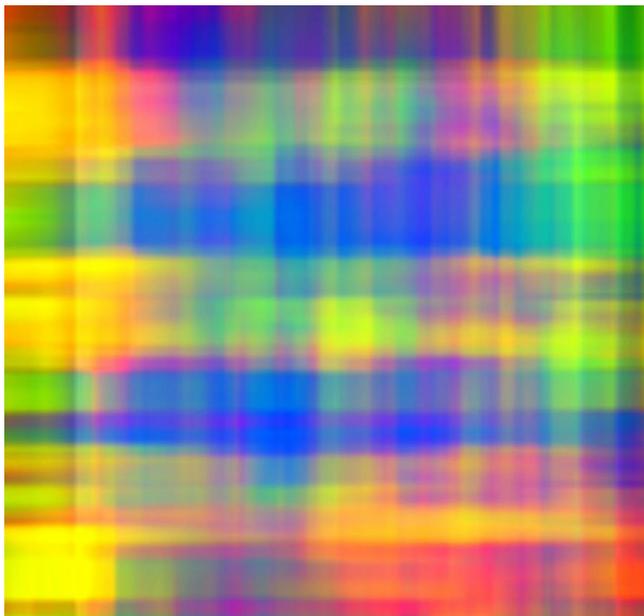
Member: \$120.00 | Non-Member: \$144.00

THIS WORLD IS MINE: CREATING EXTRAORDINARY WORLDS IN MINECRAFT (7+ YRS)

Rachel Stine

Saturdays, 1/21 - 3/25, 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM
Digital Arts & Photography

Member: \$221.25 | Non-Member: \$262.50



Above: MLAC teaching artist Asher Humm: **P. 1**

Below: MLAC Digital Artist in Residence Leo Hylan:
Study in RGB

GAME-CHANGER: INTRODUCTION TO GAME DESIGN (10+ YRS)

Rachel Stine

Saturdays, 1/21 - 3/25, 2:30 PM to 4:30 PM
Digital Arts & Photography

Member: \$295.00 | Non-Member: \$350.00

STEP INSIDE THE MACHINE: CREATIVE CODING (12+ YRS)

Leo Hylan

Sundays, 2/5 - 2/19, 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM
Digital Arts & Photography

Member: \$90.00 | Non-Member: \$108.00

PERSONAL PORTFOLIO PREPARATION PROGRAM

Andre Van de Putte

Days and Times TBD by instructor and student
8 Sessions, 1.5 hours Each
Professional Development

Member: \$800.00 | Non-Member: \$880.00



Above: MLAC teaching artist Sharon Bartmann: **Creamer and Sugar**

WINTER LECTURES AND LEARNING EVENTS

BYOA (BRING YOUR OWN ART): Dan Halprin | Tuesday, January 24, 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM | Art Appreciation, All Levels | Member: \$5.00 | Non-Member: \$7.00 | Note: This is a BYOB event

Announcing the first-ever BYOA at Main Line Art Center (possibly in the world)! Bring a piece of artwork that you made or that you own and join others who appreciate cultured conversation and crafty beverages to discuss things like what makes art meaningful, how artmaking and art collecting have changed, and what beer or wine goes best with cubism.

#SELFIE: SELF-PORTRAITURE IN THE 21ST CENTURY: Anne Leith | Monday, January 30, 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM | Art Appreciation, All Levels | Member: \$8.00 | Non-Member: \$10.00

#Selfie takes a look at the changing face of self-portraiture in our world of smart phones and social media. The lecture will focus on Contemporary Art, including artists who use Facebook and even DNA samples to expand portraiture in 21st century art.

GET MONEY! WRITING GRANT PROPOSALS AND BUDGETS: Michele Kishita | Wednesday, March 15, 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM | Artistic Development, All Levels | Member: \$10.00 | Non-Member: \$10.00 | Note: Free for PAMs.

Learn the tips, tricks and rules for writing successful grant proposals and budgets that will fund your creative freedom!



ASK THE ARTIST

CREATIVE ANSWERS TO HELP YOU GROW

*Dear Artist,
I am a longtime teaching artist, but I have never taught at a community art center before. Can you tell me what is different about teaching at Main Line Art Center versus teaching art at a college or university? I want to give my students the best experience possible, but I'm not sure what that means.*

~ Hoping to Help

Dear Hoping to Help,

Your desire to share your best while admitting that you have more to learn is already a wonderful model for your students at the Art Center and for your approach to teaching them. Students at MLAC come from many different backgrounds with multiple skill levels, so provide clear goals but allow your lesson plans to be flexible. Meet students where their interests and abilities are.

Also, while students do come to the Art Center to learn new artmaking techniques, it is often just as important to them that to feel a sense of community bonding with their

classmates and their instructors.

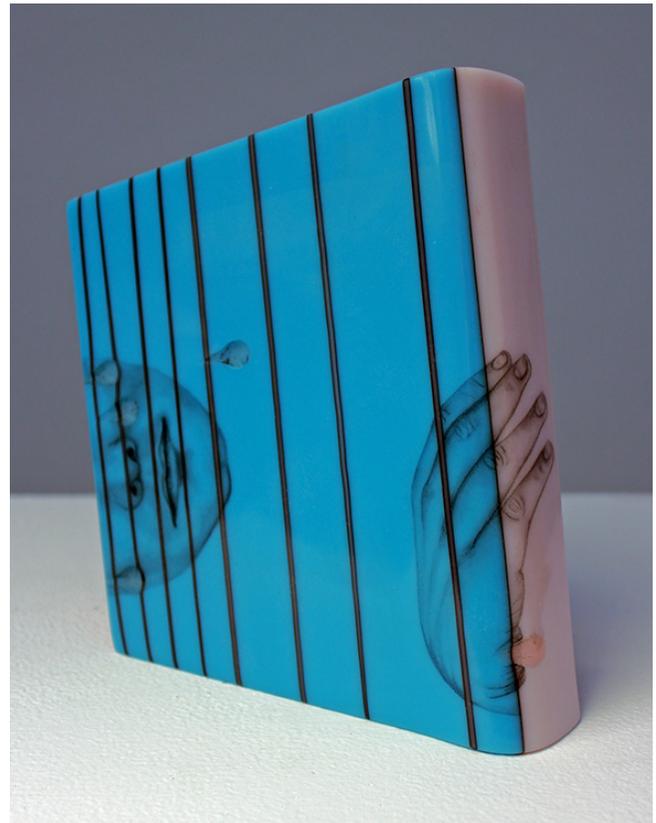
Some of your students will be professional artists with their own working studios who simply want the opportunity to practice their craft in the company of others with similar goals. Other students may be exploring their artistic potential for the first time or rediscovering it after a long time away.

Students are coming to the Art Center to be encouraged and supported just as much as they are coming here to be taught. Your role is to be both a teacher and a guide, a colleague and a constructive critical eye, to provide them with methods and context for their own artistic journey and make them feel safe enough to take the creative risks that will help them grow. Enjoy the journey!

*~Stay inspired,
The Artist*

Submit your question to Ask the Artist by sending an email to dhalprin@mainlineart.org with the subject heading "ask the artist."

Below: MLAC teaching artist Wes Valdez: **Untitled**



INSPIRATIONS

"The aim of art is to present not the outward appearance of things, but their inward significance."

Aristotle

"To be an artist, you have to give up everything, including the desire to be a good artist."

Jasper Johns

"I paint flowers so they will not die."

Frida Kahlo

"As my artist's statement explains, my work is incomprehensible and is therefore full of deep substance."

Calvin & Hobbes

DID YOU KNOW?

HATS OFF TO YOU!

Dr. Seuss (Theodor Seuss Geisel) had a room in his house full of crazy hats, hidden behind a bookshelf. Theodor put hats on his guests at parties and asked them to embody that character for the evening. He used his hat collection to take on new personas and overcome creative blocks. In addition to his commercial artwork, he was also a prolific painter and sculptor. His "Unorthodox Taxidermy" sculptures were inspired by what he imagined animals would want to be reincarnated as.

Source: *Mysterybuild.com*

Below: MLAC teaching artist Robert Szatmari: **Untitled Photo Illustration**





Above: MLAC teaching artist Brad Hagemeyer: **Creatures**

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

NEW! Marketing Yourself as a Teaching Artist Series: Promoting Your Signature Lessons

WHEN: Monday, February 6th, 2017 4:00 pm-6:30 pm

WHERE: Bartol Foundation (Friends Center) 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia

LED BY: Michelle Angela Ortiz, Program Manager at the Bartol Foundation and experienced Teaching Artist

REGISTER: bartol.org

EXHIBITION OPPORTUNITIES: SPRING GALA

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: January 31, 2017

APPLICATION FEE: \$30 Members/\$35 Non-Members + Slideroom processing fee of \$5

EXHIBITION DATES: April 30 - June 3, 2017

AWARD: 1st place: \$150; 2nd place: \$100; 3rd place: \$50

JUROR: Ekaterina Popova, Artist & Publisher of Create! Magazine

DESCRIPTION: The Spring Gala Exhibition is a

Fine Art Benefit and Exhibition in celebration of over 50 years of providing Accessible Art Programs for artists with disabilities. The SGE is an opportunity to build your collector base on the Main Line while receiving 60% commission on all art sales. Apply online via Slideroom at www.mainlineart.slideroom.com.

QUESTIONS: Ellen Grenell (egrenell@mainlineart.org or 610.525.0272 ext. 110)



Above: MLAC teaching artist Winnie Radolan: **Cast Paper Medallions**

WORD ON THE STREET:

Executive Director Amie Potsic shares stories about the Art Center from students and Teaching Artists

Our Members Show at Main Line Art Center is a wonderful opportunity for us to celebrate the many talented members in our artistic community and to invite the public to learn more about our students', Teaching Artists', and Members' artwork. In December, two classes of 30 students each from the Haverford Middle School were brought to see our Members Show by their teacher Mr. Langin.

The students were tasked with finding a piece of artwork from the members show that spoke to them and then to write a poem about the piece they had chosen. Their teacher photographed the artwork and information about each piece to later accompany the poems. Later this month, the students will vote for the best poems and the winners' poetry will be sent to the artists whose work inspired them.

I can say for certain that all the students were inspired by the range of interests and the wealth of talent our members shared. One student who kept scanning the galleries in wonder exclaimed, "I wish I could stay here forever!" Director of Education, Dan Halprin, told her we would love for her to come back and take a class.

Dan also told the students when they arrived that our classes are in-depth but also fulfilling and fun, so much so that some students even stayed in the same class for 10-15 years. Then he asked them if they had ever been in a class that they enjoyed enough to take for 15 years. "You'd stay in mine for 15 years if you could, right?" Mr. Langin quipped. He was clearly a gifted teacher with a powerful bond and some of the students looked like they were considering it. But most of them simply seemed to be wondering what kind of magical power our classes have to attract such loyalty and love. All of us already part of Main Line Art Center know where that power comes from: our community of teachers, students, artists, and staff. It's the magic we create together that makes it all worthwhile!

Want to share a story with Amie about MLAC means to you, via email? Send it to apotsic@mainlineart.org, under the subject heading "word on the street." Want to give someone the gift of art? Contact the registrar to purchase a class for them at 610-525-0272, ext. 110 or online at mainlineart.org.



Above: MLAC teaching artist Stefani Threet: **Whimsical Curves (Salt and Pepper Shakers)**

Below: MLAC Education Director Dan Halprin, **No Duh**



CROSSWORD ANSWERS:

DOWN:

1 Glaze 2 Medium 5 Contrapposto 8 Collage 9 Sensory 11 Aperture

ACROSS:

3 Hard 4 Accessible 6 Monoprint 7 Soldering 9 Serigraphy 10 Pencil
12 Slumping 13 Bust 14 Batik 15 Brayer

IN THE NEXT ISSUE: MORE OF YOUR STORIES AND ARTWORK: Remember this is your newsletter. Submit articles, art and ideas to dhalprin@mainlineart.org with the subject heading "COA submission" by March 20, 2017 to be included in the spring issue.



Main
Line

ART CENTER

746 PANMURE ROAD HAVERFORD, PA 19041

YOU BELONG