



March 31, 2019

Dear Fellow League Members,

It was one of the best attended most awards garnered some of the best food ever kind of reception for **Crooked Creek Art League's 24th Annual Juried Awards Reception** on March 18th. Hope all of you who attended enjoyed it! Ann Peake out did herself between organizing the show, the people and the flowers! Kay Young, now Kay Fox, was right there with her. (*Congratulations to Kay and Brian on your wedding March 23rd!*) This was our largest show ever with over 128 pieces entered! There was a 25% increase in participating artists and a corresponding 22% increase in awards! *Congratulations to the Award Winners* and thanks to all the many volunteers that went into making the show, among them Randy Spencer, Barbara Teusink, Melinda Smith, Sandra Oliver, Bobbi Sorensen, Sandra Wilkie, Ann Sweeney, Al Leitch, Brian Fox, Bebe Way, Joyce Oates, Maureen Carter and all the Artists who participated with their beautiful work. Most especially, thank you to all the Members who donated to the show and those that helped raise funds for the show in the business community. My friend Frank Braddock wanted to sponsor an award on an ongoing basis that will pay homage to those that founded our League, so we recognized the Founding Members who were all in attendance, Jennie Branham, the League's first President, Frances Burris, the League's first Vice President, Ingrid Carson, Exhibits and Sales and Faye Delia Meetze, Membership. In the summer of 1995 these folks dedicated themselves and their time to organizing and establishing this League. That dedication will be recognized going forward with the *Braddock Group's Legacy Award* with the thought "Live so that the work we do today will benefit those generations who come after us." *The show was exceptional because the League is exceptional and the League is exceptional because of the creativity and generosity of our League Members. We belong to a special organization and it is something to be treasured, taken care of and nurtured.*

MEMBER OF THE YEAR-Don't forget to submit your nomination for that League member who has gone above and beyond to contribute of themselves, their time and/or resources to grow and nurture this Art League. Nominations will be accepted until April 12th and votes will be cast at the April 15th meeting. MOY will be announced at the May Meeting. Here is a link to the form:

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/075b04_3d2d41701a7b483f808151485000835d.pdf.

Plans for the **Community Art Project** are moving along! Lots of great applications with great ideas were received from CCAL artists and the first six sailboats were delivered yesterday. Most of host sites have been secured and but we are still looking for sponsors from the community! The committee is excited as we gear up and make plans for the Labor Day Festival. The League will have a booth with activities to include a scavenger hunt, people's choice award and silent auction of the sailboats. *This will be a great opportunity to volunteer, get involved and make friends or catch up with old friends.*

Fred Graff will be doing a special presentation Thursday Night April 4th from 6:45-8:45 pm. This presentation is a critique of some pieces submitted to him by CCAL artists and he will use it as an opportunity to discuss and illustrate some of his concepts and techniques. *This is open to ALL CCAL members and not just workshop participants.* Fred has a long and esteemed career as both an artist and a teacher, don't miss this opportunity if you can help it! From Fred's bio:



Frederick C. Graff is one of the foremost watercolorists of today. He is a Signature Member of all three major watercolor societies: American Watercolor Society "Dolphin Fellow"; National Watercolor Society; and Transparent Watercolor Society of America "Master Status"...His continuous growth and development in his pursuit of watercolor has enabled him to be a leading artist/educator in the field of watercolor painting.

The remaining **Workshops** for the season are booked, but Sandra Oliver does have a waiting list and there are inevitably last minute cancellations due to unforeseeable circumstances. For workshop details, visit our workshops page at <https://www.crookedcreekart.org/ccal-workshops>. Email Sandra with any and all workshop related questions at soliver497@bellsouth.net.

For our **April 15th Meeting**, we will have Chapin Native and Golden Working Artist Lee Monts doing a QoR watercolor demo for us. Lee became a Working Artist for Golden in 2018, and as part of that job, he demos Golden products throughout the region. Lee is well known in Columbia for his contemporary abstracted landscapes. You can see his work at his website: www.leemontsoriginalart.com.

The theme for the **May Contest** is "Angels Among Us." Paintings will be presented at the May 20th meeting and League members will vote for their favorite- 3 paintings will receive *ribbons*. By now, those of you who signed up are probably well into your process, but in case you need the information or want to sign up, here is the link to the prospectus: <https://www.crookedcreekart.org/ccal-annual-contest>. See Melinda Smith if you have any questions!

CCAL is proud to have sponsored an award for the 64th Annual Juried Student Exhibition at USC in the McMaster Gallery. Special thanks to League Member and Gallery Director Olga Yukhno for bringing that opportunity to the League. *Also, congratulations to Olga on her acceptance into ArtFields this year.*

In closing, the latest iteration of the League's mission statement as approved by the Board in January of this Year:

The purpose of the league is to encourage and support new and established artists, to educate and encourage each other's work as well as to help grow the visual art in our community by offering artists avenues to improve skills, display and sell art, and to socialize and network with art supporters.

We will get out of this opportunity what we put into it. The League will become what we make of it. We make friends when we volunteer and spend time together with others, we get inspired when we attend meetings, workshops or League events, when we see each other's work and the work of other artists. We will continue to thrive as a group when we continue to invest in ourselves. We have had a good year thanks to all of you. My hope for this League is that we continue to thrive and support and encourage one another so generously as we have this year.

Sincerely,
Sonya Diimmler
President, Crooked Creek Art League