

# Mount Dora Art League News

November 2022

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN



Greetings,

The October meeting of the Art League was a meet and greet with 20 members and a couple of guests present. We spent time just talking and catching up after almost 3 years absent. We then went around introducing ourselves and shared a bit of information about ourselves. (I was told that I should be a comedian and all that I said was true. Teaching has been interesting.) We had several of our new members at the meeting, they will add much to our membership

Our November meeting will be on the 19th, the program will be Rosemarie Brown and her program will be on stained glass and fusion. This will be a very interesting and informative program.

Our meeting will be held at the Art Center Gallery on 5th Avenue downtown Mount Dora. The address is 138 East Fifth Avenue, it is between the ice cream shop and the coffee shop.

I am looking forward to seeing each of you at our meeting November 19th.

Best Wishes - Kathy Sacks

### EXECUTIVE BOARD 2022-2023

**President**

*Kathy Sacks*

**Vice President**

*Jane Moody*

**Treasurer**

*Esther Dirlam*

**Recording Secretary**

*Claire Fairclough*

**Corresponding Secretary**

*Marie Hammerling*

### Board Members

Esther Dirlam · Claire Fairclough

Jon Glass · Maria Hammerling

Scott Hatcher · Marilyn McEwen

Jane Moody · Kathy Sacks

Bonnie Vanzant

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Directory– Esther Dirlam

Greeter – Molly Horton

Hospitality – Marilyn McEwen & Jane Moody

Local School Liaison – Jane Moody

Membership – Jon Glass

Newsletter Editor – Dawn Sacks

Photographer – Peter Dunaway

Programs – Kathy Sacks

Rotating Displays – Esther Dirlam

Shows – Esther Dirlam & Board of Directors

Website – Peter Smith

Facebook/Publicity – Dawn Sacks

[CHECK OUT THE MDAL WEBSITE - CINI.KI.COM/MDAL](http://CINI.KI.COM/MDAL)

[SHARE YOUR ARTWORK WITH OTHERS](#) Send a jpeg. of your artwork to Peter Smith at [pasmith43@earthlink.net](mailto:pasmith43@earthlink.net) for placement on the website

## Looking to Travel? Upcoming Art Festivals



**November 5th & November 6th, 2022**

34th Annual Downtown Venice Art Festival (Venice, FL)

**November 12th & November 13th, 2022**

33rd Annual St. Armands Circle Art Festival (Sarasota, FL)

**November 19th & November 20th, 2022**

12th Annual Downtown West Palm Beach Art Festival (West Palm Beach, FL)

**November 26th & November 27th, 2022**

The Boca National Art Fair at Boca Center (Boca Raton, FL)

<https://www.artfestival.com/calendar/art>

## Upcoming Art Exhibits at the Mount Dora Center for the Arts

Oct 15 – Nov 12, 2022 Plein Air Paint Out Exhibition

Nov 18 -Dec 23, 2022 Ginger Owen "Heritage Habitats"

Jan 13 – Feb 24, 2023 Nancy Dillen "Fantasy Series" paintings and drawings,

Mar 1 – Mar 31, 2023 Central Florida Watercolor Society "Watercolor workshops and exhibit"

Apr 7 – May 19, 2023 Randy Taylor "Sandy Art" photography images rescued from Hurricane Sandy

## PROGRAMS FOR OCTOBER 2022 – APRIL 2023 10 A.M. UNTIL NOON

All meetings to be held at Mount Dora Center for the Arts at 138 East 5th Avenue in Mount Dora, unless noted otherwise.

**NOVEMBER 19, 2022**

Rosemarie Brown  
Stained Glass and Fusion

**DECEMBER 17, 2022**

Bill Cheslesth  
Fireglass

**JANUARY 21, 2023**

Jane Slivka  
Acrylics

**FEBRUARY 18, 2023**

Mayor Crissy Stile

**MARCH 18, 2023**

TBA

**APRIL 15, 2023**

Mike McCrary  
Graphic design, acrylic paint to create semi-surrealistic and whimsical paintings

**Please make plans to attend all of the meetings for this year. We have some great programs set up!**

## November 19th Program

Rosemarie Brown, stained glass artist, has been creating custom stained glass windows for major brands, cities, churches and homes for over 30 years. Rosemarie's custom stained glass windows feature one-of-a-kind artwork and can be created for windows, transoms, doors and sidelights, cabinet doors, and more!



## ANNUAL DUES

If you have not paid your annual dues, please submit them by November 19, 2022. Dues are renewable on April 30th of each year.

**\$25 for an individual      \$40 for a couple**

Please send your dues to:

Kathy Sacks

Mount Dora Art League

8217 Bridgeport Bay Circle

Mount Dora, FL 32757

## Upcoming Events

**Mount Dora Art Stroll and Art in the Alley is scheduled to start back in the Fall. Date is TBD. 6 pm to 8 pm.**

**February 4 & 5, 2023**

**48th Annual Mount Dora Arts Festival, Downtown Mount Dora, 9 am - 5 pm**

**<https://mounddoraart.com/attend/>**

**March 2023 (3rd weekend)**

**Over 200 arts and crafts vendors spread out through the streets of downtown to display their "Spring" treasures.**

**Website:**

**[www.mounddoraspringfest.com](http://www.mounddoraspringfest.com)**

**March 11 & 12, 2023**

**Leesburg Arts Fuse Festival**

**Email for more information:**

**[director@leesburgarts.com](mailto:director@leesburgarts.com)**





**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING  
TBA  
Congregational Church  
10 A.M.**

**programs@lessburgarts.com  
for information about up-  
coming programs in the  
Leesburg Art League**

## Member Travels

Jane Moody recently took a trip to Honolulu and shared some pictures with us.



## DIASPORA

Home is where  
the heART is



**CALL FOR ARTISTS**


During National Immigrant Heritage Month, Mount Dora Center for the Arts will celebrate the profound artistic impact of courageous people from around the world who left behind familiarity to seek refuge, opportunity and adventure in America. Their heritage and experiences have contributed to the rich artistic tapestry that has defined the character of our country for generations. MDCA will share their art and their stories.

"DIASPORA-Home is where the heART is" Coming June 2023

If you or someone you know would like to share their art and their immigrant heritage story, please apply at [MountDoraArt.org](http://MountDoraArt.org)



Mount Dora Center for the Arts is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to inspire curiosity, support creativity, and enrich lives through art, exhibits, and education.



Mount Dora  
Center for the Arts

**"DIASPORA"- Home is where the heART is.**  
Exhibit June 2 – July 7, 2023

**ARTIST CALL OUT for a JURIED EXHIBIT Summer 2023**

*General Guidelines*

Mount Dora Center for the Arts is seeking artists and entries for a juried art exhibition for Summer 2023

If you or someone you know is an artist who was born in another country but now calls America "Home", we are interested in hearing their story and showcasing their art.

The exhibition will highlight the melting pot of artistic talent found here in our community and tell each person's diverse story accompanied by a photograph (shot by MDCA staff).

**Requirements:**

- You must be over 21 years of age.
- All mediums will be considered. Fine craft is also acceptable.
- All works entered must be your original concept and design.
- Each artist may submit up to three (3) pieces.
- A statement conveying your art journey that includes how and why you ended up in America must accompany your submission.
- All artwork must be available for sale during the length of the exhibition. MDCA will deduct a 35% commission on all works sold.
- Applicants must pre register online at [www.MountDoraArt.org](http://www.MountDoraArt.org).
- Submission fee for 1 to 3 pieces: Current MDCA members \$25. Non members \$65

**Deadline:**

- All entries must be in digital format and received by 5pm May 5, 2023. Please email jpg files to [info@mdca.org](mailto:info@mdca.org).
- All entries must be in jpeg format and labeled as: Last name, first name, title, medium, size, gallery price.
- You will be notified by May 12, 2023 as to what submission(s) have been accepted and when your photo shoot will be scheduled.
- Drop-off for accepted submissions will be Sat May 27, 2022, 11am-2pm. Pick-up Sat July 8, 2023 11am-2pm

## Member Artwork

New member, Sandy Davenhall, shared some of her artwork. Sandy paints palm frond boots. They have six palm trees in their yard and when the boots fall from the trees, she sees a "canvas". Currently



Sandy has 15 pieces displayed on the art wall at the Eustis Library until November 7th. Below are a few pictures from her exhibit.



## Bet You Didn't Know - Interesting Facts about Vincent Van Gogh

Only 37 years old when he died and having only sold one painting, Van Gogh sadly did not live long enough to see the extent of his legacy – which includes his works now being some of the most expensive in the world. He painted almost 900 paintings in 10 years. Up until Van Gogh was 27, he had explored several different jobs – he'd been a lay minister, teacher and art dealer (just to name a few!).

Suddenly, he abandoned these careers and decided to focus all his energy on painting and drawing – and once he got started, there was no stopping him! Over the next ten years, Van Gogh went on to create a body of work which included almost 900 paintings, and a further 1,100 works on paper – which meant a new artwork every 36 hours (on average) – phew! It's mind blowing how much he achieved in such a short time. Van Gogh lived with mental illness throughout his life. While, it's fairly well-known that Van Gogh lived with a mental illness, we can't be 100% certain around the details. What is fairly well understood though, is his symptoms included hallucinations, depression, and seizures – which at times were quite severe. Many modern day psychiatrists have attempted to diagnose his illness from the symptoms he showed, and possible diagnoses include schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, syphilis, hypergraphia, Geschwind syndrome, and temporal lobe epilepsy. It is also quite possible that he had a combination of these. Whatever his diagnosis, it was likely made worse by his lifestyle – which to put it nicely was not exactly healthy.... Van Gogh's staples were coffee, cigarettes and bread. Despite his privileged background, Van Gogh spent his adult life in poverty, surviving on cheap food (and not much of it). His diet consisted mainly of bread and coffee, he drank alcohol excessively, and was rarely ever seen without his pipe in hand.

His brother often donated to his cause but Van Gogh, obsessed with his art, chose to funnel all funds into buying more creative supplies. By the time he was 33, Van Gogh's health had gone from bad to worse, and he wrote to his brother Theo saying he'd only had six hot meals in about a year, and his teeth felt loose and painful. Considering he worked himself into the ground, had poor diet and loved to smoke and drink, it's no surprise really that he was also regularly sick. He was nicknamed 'The Redheaded Madman'

As Van Gogh's mental health was often poor, he spent a lot of time in and out of hospital. Over the years, the hallucinations and delusions he experienced became more intense and frequent, and he started attracting the attention of his neighbors. Scared by his behavior, they named him "le fou roux" (The Redheaded Madman) and rallied together to collect signatures for a petition against him (the Arles Petition). In response, the police evicted Van Gogh from his home for good, and he once again returned to hospital.

The truth behind Van Gogh's ear is still unknown. Most people will have heard the story about Van Gogh cutting off his ear – and while his ear was indeed cut, the details around have never been confirmed. The popular version of the story is often told this way... Van Gogh and his very close friend, Gauguin, were having a quarrel. The argument got more and more heated until Van Gogh threatened his friend with a razor. But instead of actually harming Gauguin, Van Gogh sliced off part of his own ear – wrapping it in a cloth and later giving it to a prostitute. Some historians, however, think Gauguin was to blame. This story goes that Gauguin, an excellent fencer, cut Van Gogh's ear with his sword during a fight, and the two artists agreed to hush up the truth to escape the police. While it's also popularly believed that Van Gogh whole ear was cut off, it is actually likely he only severed a part of the ear lobe.

'Starry Night' was created in an 'asylum'. Following the ear incident, Van Gogh decided to check himself into the Saint-Paul-de-Mausole hospital known back then as an 'asylum', where he was diagnosed with 'acute mania with generalized delirium'. Luckily for Van Gogh, while he was in hospital he could continue creating his art – and he would spend the days looking through the barred windows at the scenery below. It was here he completed his most famous work: 'Starry Night'. Starry Night in fact shows his view on different days, and even at different times of day. As he sat and watched the light and weather change, he painted the view at sunrise, moonrise, on sun-filled days, overcast days, windy days and rainy days. Although it's recognized as a masterpiece, Van Gogh was never happy with this piece and even went as far as saying he thought it, and others he completed while in hospital, were failures.

Van Gogh was a pioneer of the post-impressionistic selfie. Over a period of three years, Van Gogh painted an impressive 43 self-portraits – but it had less to do with vanity than necessity. As he struggled to afford paid models and had a limited social circle, Van Gogh simply had few other people to paint. In his self-portraits, he often appears as scruffy and unshaven, with deeply sunken eyes, a weak jaw and missing teeth. There are even some portraits he even did right after he (or potentially Gauguin) cut off his ear with fresh bandages. His other cost-saving tricks included painting over his artworks instead of buying new canvas which makes you wonder what else could be hiding under those 900 paintings! Van Gogh died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound... or did he? Aged 37, Van Gogh was discharged from hospital and moved closer to his brother, but his mental health continued to decline. Things continued to get worse until 29 July 1890, when it was reported that he shot himself in the chest. Although the bullet passed through his chest without doing apparent damage to internal or his spine, the doctors weren't able to remove it, and he died from the infected wound two days later. While this is ending to Van Gogh's story is the most accepted, some believe he didn't fire the bullet himself, and it was in fact a local teen who had teased the artist, who had killed him. On his deathbed, Van Gogh's heartbreaking parting words to his brother were "the sadness will last forever".

From: <https://www.aruma.com.au/about-us/blog/8-fascinating-facts-about-vincent-van-gogh/>

