

RockvilleArtLeague.org Vol. XXXV No. 1 September 2025

Message from the President, Patrick Sieg

Dear Rockville Art League artists,

Fall brings more temperate weather and September 1 marks the start of a new Rockville Art League membership year.

Hopefully you have had time to enjoy the summer season, to stay cool and enjoy art.

I look forward to the start of each year and am honored and grateful to be serving as the President of the Rockville Art League again for 2025/2026 and to be serving the members of our art community.

Rob Gale, RAL's Treasurer for the last 10 years, will be leaving that position for this coming year but will continue in an advisory capacity.

The Treasurer's responsibilities will move to a new leader, Helen Wood, who is a current board member and will bring much experience to her new and expanded role.

Like many of you, I am a member of several art organizations. Each organization has benefits to offer but, when I look at our Rockville Art League, I can frankly say that membership in our league is an exceptional value.

With their payment of annual dues every member receives:

- Meetings throughout the year with accomplished and interesting presenters. Our meetings continue to be via Zoom and they are recorded and converted to YouTube for future review (but please join our Zooms live and feel free to contribute with questions and personal insights).
- A monthly newsletter published September through June (thank you Susan Dunnell).
- The privilege of entering two juried member shows and a chance to interact with our juror. The last two years we have welcomed our judges to the in-person Sunday "Meet-The-Artists" events and award presentations.
- Access to other show opportunities including themed shows, displayed at the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery.
- Sponsoring two scholarship opportunities for art students attending Montgomery College.
- Upon request, your personal art website may be linked to our RAL site.

- Knowledge that we are enhancing the art community here in Rockville, Montgomery County, Maryland and the surrounding area.
- And new areas of service throughout the year.

As a bonus, the RAL Board of Directors met in July, and we agreed to keep the annual membership dues for this upcoming year at an affordable \$40.

<u>Please renew your membership in our art league</u>. Easy methods for renewing are listed under "Membership" on our website. See details later in this newsletter.

Regarding our Zoom meetings...

- Our September speaker will be art historian Dr. Irina Stotland. We are so lucky to have her back again this year continuing our tradition of having her kick-off our art league's year. Her Zoom will be on Thursday, September 4th, and her topic will be Romanticism and the Fall of Reason. I learn many new things every time she speaks, and we are lucky to have her present such fascinating topics to our group.
- In October we will hear from abstract artist Steve Loya and see his unique point of view and the whimsical fun he brings to art...I can't wait.
- In November we welcome back artist, pastelist and oil painter Gonzalo Ruiz Navarro. He has recently returned from several years in Pakistan and hopefully his talk will include learnings from this overseas adventure (and perhaps a demonstration).

And please do yourself a favor and visit the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery and the RAL "Cloud Covers" exhibit...you will thank yourself for making the trip and enjoy this show's energy. It is up until August 29, 2025.

Amazingly, fall is upon us.

It is not too early to begin thinking about our winter juried show and more details will be in the October newsletter.

"Practice any art, music, singing, dancing, acting, drawing, sculpting, poetry, fiction, essays, reportage, no matter how well or badly, not to get money and fame, but to experience becoming, to find out what's inside you, to make your soul grow." Kurt Vonnegut

Thank you for supporting the Rockville Art League, for renewing your membership and for sharing your art, vision, and creativity with our community.

Sincerely,

Patrick Sieg President

Rockville Art League Speaker Series

We offer six presentations a year – September, October, November, February, March and April. The presentations this year are **on Zoom** with the invitations sent out a few days prior and also posted on the website. Please try to join us *in real time*! The speakers appreciate an audience and plan to allow time for Q&A.

As long as the speaker agrees, the zoom session will be recorded and sent out to members afterwards. Most links to the videos are available on the Rockville Art League's YouTube which you can access by going to the RAL website and clicking the icon for YouTube at the bottom of the page.



Thursday, September 4, 7:00 PM on Zoom: Art Historian Dr. Irina Stotland on Romanticism and the Fall of Reason

We are delighted to welcome back Dr. Stotland to kick off our RAL speaker series once again! Members will remember her in depth and fascinating presentations on a variety of famous artists from Bonnard to Bosch, Velasquez, Toulouse-Lautrec, Gauguin, Mary Cassatt, *The Secrets of Johannes Vermeer*, the Ukrainian Avant-Garde, as well as the important American art movement *Abstract Expressionism*. This time she will offer a presentation on *Romanticism and the Fall of Reason*.

This presentation will give an overview of the most important painters of Romanticism, Francisco Goya, Eugene Delacroix, J.M.W. Turner, John Constable and Theodore Gericault, and discuss the driving engines of this movement that emerged during the late 18th century. A novel reverence for

nature, the supernatural and a fascination with the exotic and mysterious transformed painting. The emphasis on imagination, emotion and individualism continues to resonate with contemporary artists and audiences today making it an enduring and influential art movement in western art.



Los Caprichos, Capricho No. 43: The Dream of Reason Produces Monsters. Etching on paper (Prado, Madrid)

About Dr. Stotland:

Irina Stotland received her doctorate in the History of Art from Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr PA. A specialist in nineteenth-century French art, her research interests include Post-Impressionist self-portraiture and gender and sexuality studies, with special emphasis on the construction of identity in representations. Her article on Paul Gauguin's self-portraits appears in "Gauguin's Challenge. New Perspectives After Postmodernism." (ed. Norma Broude, 2018). Her most recent publication is "The Holy Faces of Paul Gauguin" in "Paul Gauguin. The Other and I," Museu de Arte de São Paulo/KMEC Books, 2023. She is currently teaching at Montgomery College LLI, Rockville MD, and lecturing at various museums and educational organizations.

Thursday, October 9, 7:00 PM: Abstract Artist and Educator Steve Loya Thursday, November 13, 7:00 PM: Fine Artist and Instructor Gonzalo Ruiz Navarro

Membership – **It's time to renew!**

We appreciate our members and their support for the Rockville Art League. Our membership year runs from **September 1, 2025, to August 31, 2026**. If you haven't yet renewed, please consider renewing your membership. RAL dues are **\$40** for the entire year.

Please renew and take advantage of our *members only* exhibition opportunities, the presentations and networking, and other benefits that can help you grow as an artist. We have six meetings a year, currently on zoom with excellent speakers, discussions, and demos. Please visit the website https://rockvilleartleague.org and click on the word *Membership* to see a complete list of membership benefits.

We will begin our year on Thursday, September 4 with an in-depth presentation by art historian **Dr. Irina Stotland** *on Romanticism and the Fall of Reason*. On October 9, we welcome abstract artist and educator **Steve Loya**. On November 13, fine artist and instructor Gonzalo Ruiz Navarro will offer a presentation and demo.

Our monthly meetings this year are on Zoom. Zoom invitations are sent out a few days prior to the email you receive your RAL mailings. They are also posted on the website.

<u>IMPORTANT:</u> Please be sure the email is the one you check often and read. If your email has changed and you'd like to update it, you may easily do so by updating your preferences at the very bottom of the RAL mailings – or let us know.

We have two large, juried member shows, in winter and spring, and both feature virtual exhibits on the website and are in person at the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery. We also offer members unique opportunities such as the two themed shows immediately following the large, juried member shows. Our most recent themed show is CLOUD COVERS.

We are beginning to make preparations for our *RAL Juried Members' Winter Show*. All details will be in the October newsletter and will be sent out to members as well.

Membership is \$40. You can easily renew on the RAL website "pay now" button. Or, if you prefer to pay by check, please make it payable to *Rockville Art League* and mail to the treasurer at this address: Rockville Art League c/o Helen Wood 5926 Maplewood Park Pl Bethesda, MD 20814 We kindly request that you **do not send** any payment to the RAL PO BOX.

Thank you to those who have already renewed, and a warm welcome to new members! Unsure of your membership status? Please send a note to: president@rockvilleartleague.org

Katherine Nelson Judge's Remarks - Cloud Covers Exhibition

Rockville Art League

I want to begin by thanking the Rockville Art League for inviting me to jury *Cloud Covers*. It's always a privilege to be part of this thoughtful and generous community. I'm especially grateful to Pat and Lisa Sieg for the opportunity and for the care they bring to organizing these exhibitions.

This was a truly wonderful show—so many strong works, such diversity of style and approach. The theme *Cloud Covers* is broad and poetic, and the submissions reflected that. Some artists created direct representations of clouds; others used atmosphere more metaphorically. Either way, all of the images had cloud forms present—reminding us just how often we look up at the sky and find something more than just weather.

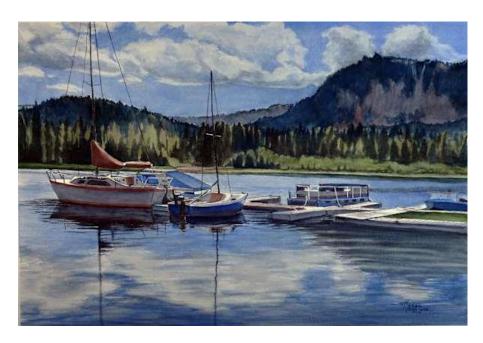
Clouds are universal, yet deeply personal. We find inspiration in them, peace, sometimes worry. They help us dream or reflect. They show up in our moods and in our memories. As Paulo Coelho once said, "Beautiful sunsets need cloudy skies." I'd add that so do sunrises—and so does art.

Now I'd like to highlight the award recipients and share what drew me to these particular works.



First Place: The Place Between by Paula Zeller (Oil on linen, 14x11)

This powerful work depicts a contemplative woman set against a sweeping cloudscape. The harmony of color, the delicate use of light, and the emotional resonance between the figure and the sky all contribute to a deeply layered and thoughtful image. The repetition of skin tones in the clouds, the upward gaze, and the light breaking through the background all enhance the mood of inner reflection and emotional complexity. This is a piece that speaks across time and circumstance—a universal meditation on being.



Second Place: *Boats Under Clouds* by Susan Moses (Watercolor on paper, 11x 22) From the moment I saw this piece, I was drawn in. The stillness of the boats, the reflection of the sky in the water, and the gentle, sunlit atmosphere create a peaceful and meditative scene. The watercolor technique is masterfully handled with strong drawing underneath and a luminous palette. There's a sense of breath and space here that is incredibly soothing.



Third Place: Last Flight for the Day by Nadine Kim (Oil on panel, 9 x12) This evocative image blends beautiful color transitions with expressive brushwork and light. Birds circle upward into a luminous opening in the clouds—a dynamic and spiritual ascent. The circular motion of

the composition adds to the sense of flight and transcendence. I found myself returning to this piece again and again, drawn by its uplifting and poetic quality.

Honorable Mention:

The Farm Before the Storm by Patrick Sieg (Oil on canvas, 18x24)

A strong and grounded piece depicting a local farm just before the weather shifts. The gathering clouds add tension and narrative to the familiar rural landscape, reminding us how much farmers contend with weather and uncertainty on a daily basis.

Field of Clouds by Lisa Sieg (Digital photo, 12x16)

This emotionally resonant photograph features two figures and a dog standing in a harvested field beneath an approaching storm. Their opposing gazes suggest differing perspectives on what lies ahead, making this piece a statement on human resilience and uncertainty.

Lofty Lines by Harriet Gordon (Mixed media, 20x20)

An abstract exploration of cloud forms through elegant line work and a limited, harmonious palette. This piece invites quiet observation and suggests both sky and water—fluid and contemplative, with a compelling balance of geometry and softness.

Nube Siete by Maurizio Athie (Digital photo, 11x14)

This stunning photograph captures light breaking through storm clouds over water, offering both visual beauty and emotional depth. The composition evokes a sense of awe and spiritual reflection, reminding us of our place in the vastness of nature.

To all the artists in this show: thank you for sharing your visions. It was truly difficult to select awards from such a rich and varied group of works. Every piece brought something special to the theme—whether introspective, joyful, dramatic, or serene.

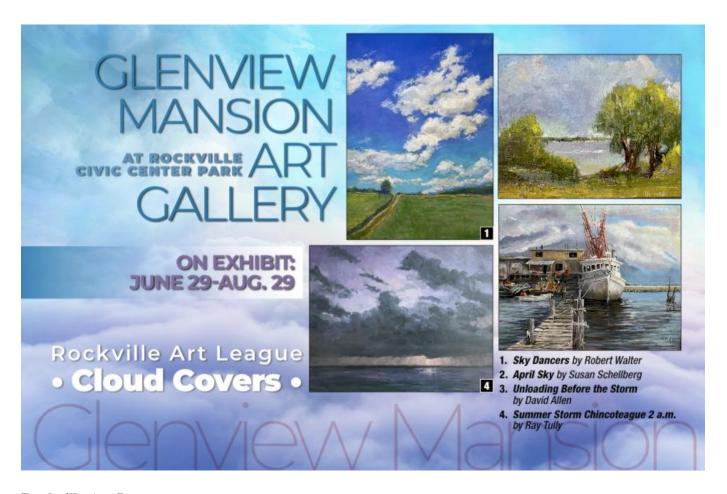
Congratulations to each of you and thank you again to the Rockville Art League for your invitation and the opportunity to be part of *Cloud Covers*. It's always a pleasure to work with this community and to be reminded of the power of art to connect us—across skies, stories, and emotional landscapes.

Enjoy the exhibition and thank you.

Katherine Nelson

Glenview Mansion Art Gallery Exhibitions

Glenview Mansion Art Gallery is located at 603 Edmonston Dr. at the Rockville Civic Center. Open weekdays, Monday – Friday, 9:00am-4:30pm. Please check the Glenview Mansion website https://www.rockvillemd.gov/389/Glenview-Mansion before coming out or call 240-314-8681. There is plenty of parking and an elevator to all levels of the gallery. The gallery is located on the 2nd floor. It is quiet and uncrowded during the week. Meet the Artists events are free and open to the public. Thank you for supporting the arts and your fellow artists.



Rockville Art League

Cloud Covers

On Exhibit: June 29 – August 29

Clouds have the power to inspire daydreams and allow for a momentary getaway. Spend some time with your head in the clouds, look for silver linings and you may just find yourself on *cloud nine*. From the dark and dramatic to light and wispy, they can alter mood, influence a range of emotions and fill us with awe. Familiar, yet ever changing and inspiring, shifting effortlessly in mere moments, assuming shapes, unique textures and otherworldly colors or building into a blustery storm. All this is right outside our doors, day or night. The artists in this show offer their unique creations and show us how extraordinary atmosphere can be. The artists in this show offer their unique creations and show us how extraordinary atmosphere can be. We were honored to have Katherine Nelson as judge.

This beautiful show has received rave reviews from the community and there is still time to enjoy this exhibit. It is on display through August 29.

A reminder to participating artists: please be sure to pick up your artwork is on TUESDAY, September 2, 9:30am-12:30pm.



Glenview Exhibition:

Han-Mee Artists Association of Greater Washington Departure Golden Jubilee Art Exhibition

On Exhibit: September 7 – October 3

Meet the artists: Sunday, Sept. 7, 1:30-3:30pm. The event and exhibit are free and open to the public.

Everyone is welcome.

About the exhibit: HMAA is an organization of Korean-American artists who immigrated to the Washington D.C. metropolitan area over the last fifty years. Founded in 1975 by fifteen artists residing in the Washington Metro Area, HMAA serves as a platform for artists of Korean heritage to exhibit their unique works and support each other in their artistic pursuits. For five decades, HMAA members have showcased their art through individual and group exhibitions at notable museums and galleries in the Washington area, as well as internationally. Some of our members' works are part of permanent collections in several museums. Our members present their limitless vision, dedication, and individual creativity, sharing the spirit and culture of Korean Americans with this Golden Jubilee Art Exhibition. We strive to pass on our cultural heritage to the next generation, enhance our community with cultural diversity, and raise awareness of Korean-American culture within the Metropolitan D.C. area.

On Exhibit: Sept. 7-Oct. 3

Han-Mee Artists Association of Greater Washington

DEPARTURE GOLDEN JUBILEE ART EXHIBITION

Meet the Artists from 1:30-3:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 7.

Event is free and open to the public.

For information, call 240-314-8681 or 240-314-8660. For recorded directions, call 240-314-5004. Glenview Mansion Art Gallery is wheelchair accessible. Gallery Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; gallery is closed on official city holidays.



Glenview Mansion Art Gallery

at Rockville Civic Center Park 603 Edmonston Drive Rockville, MD 20851



Glenview Exhibition:

Maryland Pastel Society

Shades of Pastel

On Exhibit: October 12 – November 26

Rockville Art League Juried Members' Winter Show

On Exhibit: December 7 – January 16

All details forthcoming.

Virtual Shows, Sales, and Inquiries

Virtual shows are updated and posted to the Rockville Art League website by webmaster Michael Auger. *RAL's CLOUD COVERS Show* is available to view and share.

How to access the current virtual show and past ones:

Go to https://rockvilleartleague.org and click on the button for the current virtual show, CLOUD COVERS. (If you haven't visited the RAL website lately, you may to need to hit refresh.)

Once you open the current virtual show, you can view all the work in the show, or if you prefer to see it by specific artist, click on the word "Artists" and, if you would like to view it by category of artwork, click on the word "Rooms". If you are interested in a specific piece, you can click on that artwork.

If you would like to view a different virtual show, click on the word "Exhibitions" and you will see the show cards from prior shows.

Find the show card of the one you would like to view and click on the name of the show (right below the show card and you can view that show. (Note: RAL's Artwork Archive account has the capacity to store up to 1000 images of artwork; as new shows are uploaded, the work in past shows are no longer viewable. We do retain records with images of work from past RAL shows.)

You can inquire or send a purchase request on the piece on the virtual show. On occasion, we receive inquiries for work in past shows still viewable through our virtual shows. Any inquiries or purchase requests are forwarded to the artist.

How to inquire about or purchase a piece in a Rockville Art League Show on display at Glenview: If you are in the gallery at Glenview and you are interested in a piece in a RAL show, click on the QR code found right on the label below the work. Instructions are also found in the various rooms of the gallery. It's easy. Just aim your smartphone at the QR code and <u>click on the link</u> that appears, and it will take you to the piece. Once there, you will see the artwork, the medium, dimensions and, if the piece is available, the price. You can click on "Inquire" or "Purchase" if you are interested further. We forward all inquiries or purchase requests to the artist. If you are at Glenview and forgot your phone or just can't quite figure out a QR code, no worries. Either take a picture of the label or write down the name of the piece and contact either Lisa Sieg (jshows@rockvilleartleague.org) or Patrick Sieg (president@rockvilleartleague.org). Or go to the RAL website and look for us under contacts.

These shows are beautiful thanks to our talented members. The CLOUD COVERS Show is on display at Glenview through August 29. Go see it in person!

Rockville Art League Speaker Series

We offer six presentations a year – September, October, November, February, March and April. The presentations this year are **on Zoom** with the invitations sent out a few days prior and also posted on the website. Please try to join us *in real time*! The speakers appreciate an audience and plan to allow time for O&A.

As long as the speaker agrees, the zoom session will be recorded and sent out to members afterwards. Most links to the videos are available on the Rockville Art League's YouTube. Thanks to Helen Wood, you can access several past presentations and awards commentaries by going to the RAL website and clicking the icon for YouTube at the bottom of the page.



August 30-September 1: Paint the Town Labor Day Show

200+ local artists exhibiting in one of Montgomery County's largest community art shows



KENSINGTON, MD, 2025 - The Montgomery Art Association (MAA) celebrates more than 200 local artists by producing one of the region's longest-running and largest art shows. The annual three-day Paint the Town Labor Day Show will take place at the Kensington Historic Armory, 3710 Mitchell St., Kensington, MD, August 30-September 1. The event is free and open to the public. The judged art show features hundreds of pieces of artwork by member artists from the DC area. Christopher Addison serves as the judge, recognizing work in nine categories and awarding the esteemed Bertha Clum prize in the Kensington category. All works are for sale, including original paintings, sculpture, and photography as well as prints and notecards in the exhibition's marketplace. In addition to the main show, MAA will host its annual plein air competition. Local artists will also offer live art demonstrations. An invitation from MAA's President, Sylvia Douglin: Paint the Town is back—and this year's show is shaping up to be one for the books! The Montgomery Art Association is thrilled to once again partner with the Town of Kensington to bring you a weekend full of art, community, and celebration. This beloved event is more than just an art show and sale—it's a vibrant gathering where creativity shines, local talent takes center stage, and connections are made around every corner. We're proud to feature paintings, drawings, sculptures, digital art, plein air, and photography—all created by local artists right here in the region. Whether you're showcasing your work, adding to your collection, or just soaking in inspiration, Paint the Town offers something for everyone. Come stroll, smile, and celebrate with us.

Schedule of events: Friday, August 29 Plein air competition check in, 4-7pm

Saturday, August 30 Plein air competition with models, 7 am-3 pm (check in 7 11am) Show and sale open, 11-4pm Demo with Kara Lin, 12pm Demo with Amy Rice, 1:45pm Demo with Ronni Jolles, 3:30pm Demo with Glen Kessler, 4:45pm Awards Ceremony, 6-7pm

Sunday, August 31 Exhibition and sale open, 11am 5pm Live music from the Wilson Jazz Duo, 11:30am Demo with Andrew Smart, 11:30 Demo with Dora Patin, 1:15pm Artist Demo with Rachael Rice, 3:00pm

Monday, September 1 Exhibition and sale open

10am 5pm Demo with Ginger Browning, 2:30pm Customers pick up purchases, 5 8 pm Tuesday, September 2 Customers pick up purchases, 9 11 am Show

Website: https://www.montgomeryart.org/laborday. About MAA: The Montgomery Art Association (MAA) is a Maryland-based nonprofit supporting the visual arts and artists in the DC area. A portion of sales goes to support our educational mission. Learn more.

MEMBER NEWS



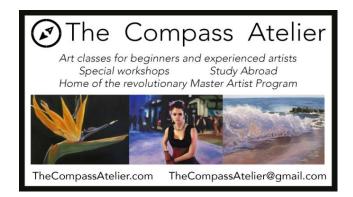
Cindy Rivarde will be showing her artwork at the Strathmore Mansion from Oct. 4 - Nov. 8.



Sameer Sharma will teach an eight-week class on how to draw using the time-tested Bargue Method. Classes are every Friday, September 5 to October 24, from 10 am until 1 pm. The cost is \$395. For further information, or to register, please visit the link below:

Compass Art Center - The Bargue Method

Jae Shin has been working as a professional picture framer for 2 decades at the Framers' Workroom located in Tenleytown, DC. Jae offers 15% off on custom framing jobs for RAL members. Please feel free to contact Jae for any framing jobs. Framers' Workroom, 4431 Wisconsin Ave., NW, Washington DC 20016. 202-363-1970. Store hours: Mon-Sat 10:00-5:30. www.FramersWorkroomDC.com Email: Jaeshin@FramersWorkroomDC.com





NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Is your art included in a show? Have other news you wish to share with RAL members? Please send your submissions by the **15**th of each month for inclusion in the next newsletter, to: newsletter@rockvilleartleague.org



Glenview Mansion Schedule					
2025					
Exhibition Dates:	ARTISTS	Delivery of Artwork	Meet the Artists Opening Event	Pick-up Artwork	
June 29-Aug. 29	Rockville Art league Cloud Covers	MONDAY, June 23 10:00am-1:00pm	Sunday, June 29 1:30-3:30pm	TUESDAY, Sept. 2 10:00am-1:00pm	
September 7 – October 3	Glenview Exhibit Han-Mee Artists Association of Greater Washington Departure Golden Jubilee Art Exhibition	Tuesday, Sept. 2 12:30-2:00pm	Sunday, Sept. 7, 1:30-3:30pm	Monday, October 6 9:00am-10:30am	
October 12 – November 26	Glenview Exhibit: Maryland Pastel Society Shades of Pastel	Monday, Oct. 6 11:00am – 1:00pm	Sunday, Oct. 12, 1:30-3:30pm	Monday, Dec. 1 10:00am-1:00pm	
Dec. 7 – Jan. 16	Rockville Art League Juried Winter Show	TUESDAY, Dec. 2 10:00am – 1:00pm	Sunday, Dec. 7 1:30-3:30pm	TUESDAY, Jan. 20 10:00am – 1:00pm	

Artists displaying work in the gallery at Glenview Mansion will be contacted with detailed information about their shows, including the required show agreement. Labels and support to hang the show will be provided. The RAL shows are virtual on our website as well as in person at Glenview

Meet the Artists opening events are free and open to the public. There is plenty of parking and an elevator to all levels of the gallery. The art gallery is open weekdays Monday-Friday, 9am-4:30pm. Closed on official city holidays.

Please check Glenview Mansion website: https://www.rockvillemd.gov/389/Glenview-Mansion or call 240-314-8681 or 240-314-8660 before visiting. Glenview Mansion is located at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Dr., Rockville, MD.

Thank you for supporting the arts and your fellow artists!

RAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Name	Position	E-mail
Patrick Sieg	President	president@rockvilleartleague.org
Vacant	President Elect	president@rockvilleartleague.org
Lisa Sieg	Vice President/ Exhibits Coordinator	jshows@rockvilleartleague.org
Sarah Sohraby	Program Coordinator	programs@rockvilleartleague.org
Lisa Sieg	Volunteer Coordinator	volunteer@rockvilleartleague.org
Vacant	Membership Coordinator	membership@rockvilleartleague.org
Helen Wood	Treasurer	treasurer@rockvilleartleague.org
Cathy McDermott	Secretary	secretary@rockvilleartleague.org
Susan Dunnell	Newsletter Editor	newsletter@rockvilleartleague.org
Dave Allen	Publicity/marketing	publicity@rockvilleartleague.org
Helen Wood	Communications	communications@rockvilleartleague.org
Vacant	Hospitality	hospitality@rockvilleartleague.org
Michael Auger	Webmaster	webmaster@rockvilleartleague.org
Eileen Mader 1919-2016	Founder	

Rockville Art League P.O. Box 4026 Rockville, MD 20850

