

From Your New 2026 President...



First, a **Big THANKS to Margo** for keeping the home fires glowing by guiding our organization through events and exhibits these last two years and more as president and 1st vice president. She can now ease into well deserved time to work on her own art at her home studio.

As your new 2026 president I look forward to working with all members. I look at this leadership role as an opportunity to share all that I have learned in my life to nurture and grow the Lafayette Art Association. Education in public and private schools was my focus with the last 17 years at Episcopal School of Acadiana in Cade (retired in 2020). I'm a life long learner and most of all, an explorer of ideas. You will see evidence of this as we schedule classes and workshops of varied topics and lengths taught by members and others in our community and beyond. I'm hoping that many of you will find subjects that match your interest and length of time commitments. Margo's studio at the LAA will now be our new classroom with lots of space. There's a list on page 6 of this newsletter of our first classes scheduled (I'll be teaching a workshop on Friday, March 13th!). You can keep up with new ones as they're added by checking on what will be our new website. It'll be easy to navigate and give you all the information you're looking for.



Cathy Mill's Bio

Cathy finds all of her experiences have added dimensions to her life that provide ideas and feelings for her work. As an admitted art class and workshop-aholic, the evidence of many techniques and styles can be found throughout her work. It cannot be pigeon-holed and you may wonder where it all comes from and why can't she settle on one thing. That is because she doesn't want to. She is always looking at artwork throughout time and from around the world. Cathy's creative energy is always active. From her ceramics, mixed media and paintings spring what she hopes is thoughtfulness and connectivity to her audience.

Our 2026 exhibit schedule is also changing. The themed Bird Shows 1 & 2 have been such a hit we are moving on to new theme based shows this year. Updates will be sent through members' emails, Facebook and Instagram posts. Also, Taylor Trache has scheduled us in for a monthly visit on her KLFY show, *Acadiana Live* at 4:00. Look for the upcoming announcements for those shows.

More events that reach into the community such as my **Coffee, Cookies and Conversation (CCC)** will be a time for members and nonmembers to gather informally to chat about art and life as an artist community. *Our first will be Friday, February 13, from 10-11:30am.* A lovely way to share a little love before Valentine's Day! Let me know if you have a special treat you would like to share.

Let's all meet together for an all membership meeting. Time and details will be sent soon. I have many new ideas and look forward to working with you all. Please let me know if you have any questions. I would love to hear from you at cbmillsart@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
Your President of Your LAA, Cathy Mills



Stop by for a Chat!
Friday, Feb 13th | 10-11:30 am

LA Art & about

"The February sunshine steeps your boughs and tints the buds and swells the leaves within." William C. Bryant

"Art is not a handicraft, it is the transmission of feeling the artist has experienced." Leo Tolstoy



Encaustic Monotypes

LAFAYETTE ART ASSOCIATION

Workshop with
Bonnie Camos



**Saturday,
Feb 21st
10am-3pm
\$150**

- 8 students max
- All materials provided

**For info & to register:
TEXT
Bonnie
337-654-2393**

or email zeedob@lusfiber.net

NEWSTONE

- **Now thru Feb 28th Bird Show 2 Open Competition**
- **Bird Show 2 Awards Reception: Feb 7th • 5-7pm**
- **2/13 Cookies, Coffee & Conversation! 10-11:30am**
- **2/14 Art Walk AND Valentine's Day!**
- **2/17 Mardi Gras**
- **2/18 Ash Wednesday**
- **2/21 Encaustic Workshop with Bonnie Camos**
- **2/24 Watercolor Workshop with Terry Palmer**
- **March 4-7 Bird Show Pickup Dates**
- **3/13 Ceramic Flowers Workshop with Cathy Mills**
- **3/21 Gelli Plate Workshop with Bonnie Camos and Margo Baker**
- **March 11-28 Artist/Instructor Expo**
- **March 21-22 Acadiana Open Studio Tour (LAA will be a part of the tour)**

AT OUR SATELLITE GALLERIES:

- **Vermillionville:** Sherry Melancon, Jan-Mar 2026

Colorful Ceramic Flower Pot Garden



Workshop with **Cathy Mills**

Friday, March 13th | 10am-3pm | \$150

Create your own unique ceramic flowers using fresh clay and glaze them with bright colors! I will fire the flowers and then we'll meet the next week to attach them to wire stems and place in a provided flower pot for an early spring bouquet. • 8 students max • All materials provided.

For info & to register: TEXT Cathy at 337-216-0811 or email cbmillsart@gmail.com

The Bird Show 2 **NOW** thru Feb 28th

An Open Competition of Unique
Artist Interpretations Of Our Feathered Friends

Awards Reception This Saturday
February 7th • 5-7pm

A Sincere Thanks to our 2026 Judges!

Taylor Elliott

Taylor Elliott is the current Operations Director of Basin Arts. An accomplished arts administrator with over a decade of experience directing large-scale events and managing complex operations, she brings a rare fusion of logistical precision and artistic sensitivity to the role. She also serves as Event Director of Rockin' On The Runway, an annual fundraising event for St. Mary's Residential Community & Services, home to over 200 individuals with developmental disabilities. A lifelong dancer, she began her journey in the arts through movement—an experience that deeply informs her commitment to supporting artists and fostering accessible, impactful cultural experiences.



Brittany Pelloquin

Brittany's preferred canvas is the human body - living, breathing, and as much a part of the work as the brushstrokes themselves. Brittany graduated from UL Lafayette with a degree in Fine Arts and a concentration in painting. She has competed at the World Body Painting Festival (finishing in the Top 10 in 2016) and on the Netflix series Skin Wars, as a finalist in Season 3. Apart from body painting, Brittany applies her fine arts practice to site-specific murals, portraits, and live event paintings. She continues to explore different ways of making art and ways of connecting with the world around her and within herself and others. Her works are all marked by depth, intuitive process, and a hyper realistic tone.





Which one of your favorites will win?



Birds
of a
Feather
The Bird Show 2



Find out who wins at the Awards Reception on Feb 7 from 5-7

LAArt&about

2026 SHOWS/EVENTS

LAA Shows To Date...more to come!

- **The Bird Show 2** | Jan 20th-Feb 28th
Awards Reception: Feb 7th • 5-7pm
Pick Up: March 4-7th
- **Artist/Instructor Expo** | March 11th-28th
Showcase of LAA artist instructors and their student art
- **Open Studio** | March 11th-28th
Featured artists with conversation and demonstrations
- **Saw, File, Solder** | April 11th-May 2nd
Reception: April 11th • 5-7pm
A UL Metalwork/Jewelry Student and Alumni exhibition. Invitational Show
Set-Up: April 8th-11th
- **Collage Exhibit** | May 13th-June 20th
Reception: May 23rd • 5-7pm
"A blending of varied elements into a unified, yet often surreal work of art."
Submission: May 6th-9th
Pick-Up: June 24th-27th

SUMMER SHOWS & DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED LATER

- **Ceramic Show** | Sept 9th-Oct 10th
Reception: TBA
Submission: Sept 2nd-5th | Pick-Up: Oct 14th-17th
- **Portrait Show** | Oct 28th-Nov 28th
Reception: TBA
Submission: Oct 14th-17th & Oct 21st-24th
Pick-Up: Dec 2nd-5th

PLEASE NOTE:


The LAA has NEW 2026 OPEN HOURS!
We are now open Wed-Sat, 11am-3pm

And there's more at the LAA!

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

- **Saturday Feb 21st | 10am-3pm | Bonnie Camos**
Encaustic Monotype Workshop
\$150 | All Materials Provided | 8 Students Max
- **Tuesday, Feb 24th | TBA | Terry Palmer**
Spring/Floral Watercolors (2)
\$130 | Supply list on sign-up | 10 Students Max
You'll also get 12 professionally printed greeting cards w/envelopes of one of your paintings the following week!
- **Friday, March 13th | 10am-3pm | Cathy Mills**
Ceramic Garden Pot Flowers w/Flower Pot
\$150 | All Materials Provided
- **March 21st | 10am-3pm | Bonnie Camos & Margo Baker**
Gelli Plate Workshop
\$130 | All Materials Provided | 8 Students Max
- **Saturday, April 11th | 10am-3pm | Simone Palmer**
"Happy" Cards Made By You!
\$130 | All Materials Provided | 8 Students Max
Make some Happy Spring & Easter Cards with simple, but creative techniques!
- **April 17,18 & 19 | 10am-4:30pm | Billie Bourgeois**
**3 Day Workshop: Scribble to Structure/
Observation to Abstraction** \$550
Using one favorite object, artists will create a multitude of compositions by using gesture and contour drawing, printing, stenciling, collage, and color interaction. High energy and fast work. Objectives: to relieve artistic 'stuckness'; eliminate the question of what to paint; foster intuitive creativity with several media; eliminate premature judgment during the art making process; and to bring more enjoyment to art making!

FEBRUARY 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 At our satellite gallery: • Vermilionville: Sherry Melancon, thru March 31st	2	3	4	5	6	7 BIRD SHOW RECEPTION 5-7
Main & S Parker Gallery: Bird Show 2 Exhibit thru Feb 28 Foyer Gallery: Carey Hamburg & Blue Powers thru Feb 28						
8	9	10	11	12	13 Cookies, Coffee & Conversation! 10-11:30am	14 Art Walk 
Main & S Parker Gallery: Bird Show 2 Exhibit thru Feb 28 Foyer Gallery: Carey Hamburg & Blue Powers thru Feb 28						
15	16	17 Mardi Gras	18 Ash Wednesday	19	20	21 Encaustics with Bonnie Camos 10-3
Main & S Parker Gallery: Bird Show 2 Exhibit thru Feb 28 Foyer Gallery: Carey Hamburg & Blue Powers thru Feb 28						
22	23	24 Floral Watercolors with Terry Palmer	25	26	27	28
Main & S Parker Gallery: Bird Show 2 Exhibit thru Feb 28 Foyer Gallery: Carey Hamburg & Blue Powers thru Feb 28						
1 MARCH	2	3	4	5	6	7
PICK-UP Bird Show 2 work, March 4-7						

MARCH 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			PICK-UP Bird Show 2 work, March 4-7			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
			Ceramic Flowers with Cathy Mills 10-3			
			Main/Parker Galleries: Artist/instructor Expo, March 11-28			
			Foyer Gallery: TBA			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
			Gelli Plates with Bonnie & Margo 10-3			
			Open Studio Tour			
			Main/Parker Galleries: Artist/instructor Expo, March 11-28			
			Foyer Gallery: TBA			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Open Studio Tour						
			Main/Parker Galleries: Artist/instructor Expo, March 11-28			
			Foyer Gallery: TBA			
29	30	31	1 APRIL	2	3	4

