

# McLean Project for the Arts



## MPA Winter Exhibitions Open December 2

MPA invites you to join us as we open our **two newest exhibitions** on December 2, 2021. *Give and Take: Building Form* (Emerson Gallery) will showcase abstract wood sculpture by Emilie Benes Brzezinski, Rachel Rotenberg, Foon Sham and Norma Schwartz. The Atrium Gallery will feature *Intersectional Painting: Works by Sheila Crider*. Underwritten by Pamela and David Danner, both shows run through February 19, 2022.

### Opening Exhibition Reception Information

The Opening Exhibition Receptions will take place on Thursday, December 2, 2021 from **4-6pm** and **6.30-8.30pm**. These events are free and open to the public, but each session is limited to 30 attendees. Reservations are required. Proof of vaccination or a same-day negative COVID-19 test is required of all attendees to these two December 2 opening receptions, along with a government-issued ID for visitors 16 and older. Masks are required to be worn at all times inside the galleries and building. Visit the MPA website to make a reservation and for complete information on our health and safety guidelines. A virtual artist talk is scheduled for Thursday, January 20 at 7pm on Zoom.

**Give and Take: Building Form** featuring Emilie Benes Brzezinski, Rachel Rotenberg, Foon Sham and Norma Schwartz  
Emerson Gallery

Featuring dynamic abstract sculptural works by four artists who work primarily in wood, this exhibit will explore each artist's personal vision along with their methodology of making. By employing varying degrees of adding and subtracting material—laminating or carving, sawing and sanding—these artists build form by either giving or taking away. With this mind, process is highlighted, understood and demonstrated with an eye towards clarifying the genesis and emergence of form.

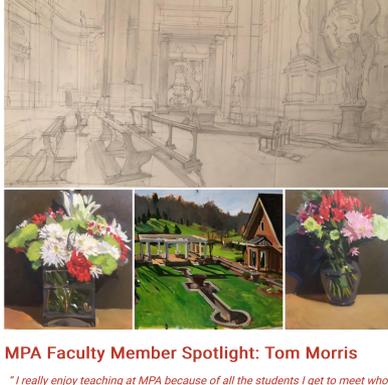
**Intersectional Painting: Works by Sheila Crider**  
Atrium Gallery

Artist Sheila Crider will exhibit works from an ongoing series that combines painting, drawing, braiding, stitching and weaving to create three-dimensional abstract forms. Through these works, which are both beautiful and evocative, Crider has found an inventive and original process that enables her to visually explore multiple intersections between material, place, tradition, race, gender, history, culture, narrative, art, painting, object and picture.

### Visiting Our Galleries

The Atrium Gallery Exhibition (Intersectional Painting) will be available for viewing during McLean Community Center operating hours. The Emerson Gallery exhibit (Give and Take: Building Form) will be open for visitors Tuesdays through Fridays from 1-4pm and Saturdays from 10am-3pm. Online exhibitions will also be available for viewing in mid-December.

### Exhibition Information



## MPA Faculty Member Spotlight: Tom Morris

*"I really enjoy teaching at MPA because of all the students I get to meet who have had so many different life experiences but yet are all drawn to the shared common experience of how to catch the beauty of the world on canvas."*

— Tom Morris

MPA faculty member Tom Morris has been teaching drawing and painting at MPA since the late 1990's. In his classes, students begin with the subject that the student cares most about. Tom applies this approach because he feels true motivation is what carries artists through the difficulties of learning. During the last nine years, Tom has shifted his focus, giving drawing more attention than his painting. This change was partly due to the fact that Tom was hired to help in the design of the building of a large home and garden on a 100-acre estate in The Plains, Virginia—a project that evolved into a full-time job, and which lead Tom to "drawing in the streets of Washington, DC and Rome!"

"What the design job has taught me is the importance of drawing as the foundation for the creation of all forms and shapes in all the visual arts," explains Tom. "Drawing has become the emphasis of my teaching outlook. Drawing is truly comprehension."

Join Tom this winter and/or spring in our DuVal Studio for his Oil and Painting Studio. [Visit our website](#) to explore a complete listing of our winter/spring class offerings!

### Explore Our Winter/Spring Class Offerings



Now more than ever we are called to make a difference.

#GivingTuesday | Nov 30, 2021

## Save the Date! #GivingTuesday is Nov. 30, 2021

#GivingTuesday 2021 is right around the corner, on Tuesday, November 30.

According to research by the Community Foundation of Northern Virginia, area public school students from higher-income households tend to perform 2.5 grade levels above students from families with less means. MPA's ArtReach works to address this gap through our arts education outreach to FCPS Title I schools, and community nonprofits serving this population — like Second Story and their Safe Youth Projects.

Your Giving Tuesday gift to MPA will help us continue to make our ArtReach possible! Thanks to the generous support of our matching gift donors, Pamela and David Danner, your #GivingTuesday donation will go twice as far!

The Danners are matching all donations up to \$15,000. What can you do to help us meet our goal?

As a premier center for contemporary art exhibitions and arts education programming, we're looking ahead to doing even more in 2022, and need your support!

[Visit our website](#) for more information or to contribute.

### Support MPA on #GivingTuesday



## MPA ArtReach Update

MPA's ArtReach and Director Sharon Fishel have had an amazing fall, connecting for exciting in-gallery, on-site, and virtual programming with ArtReach partners.

- Sharon visited Oakton High School for a mixed media project with Adapted Curriculum students.
- Belvedere Elementary 5th graders and West Springfield Elementary kindergartners were two of the six FCPS Title I schools participating in our new Virtual ArtReach programming.
- St. John's Middle School girls toured (Not) Strictly Painting and enjoyed an in-gallery collage workshop.
- Sharon spent an afternoon at Second Story's Culmore Safe Youth program as a follow-up to their recent visit, and enjoyed painting large foam rounds, generously donated by MPA Board Member, June Linowitz.
- Both the ServiceSource adults with disabilities and Lewinsville Seniors continue to enjoy their virtual weekly classes with Sharon — focusing on Winter Art Wonderland for ServiceSource and Mixed Media Monday's with the seniors.

MPA ArtReach is made possible by our generous sponsors. Your #GivingTuesday gift will help us continue our award-winning program outreach! To make a gift, [click here](#).

### MPA ArtReach



## Spring 2022 Exhibitions: Call for Proposals

McLean Project for the Arts currently seeks solo exhibition proposals for their Spring 2022 Exhibitions. The exhibits will be featured as part of MPA's 60th anniversary celebration. Contemporary living artists working in the Mid-Atlantic region are invited to submit exhibition or project proposals for display in the MPA Emerson and Atrium Galleries. Exhibitions will run April 14 – June 11, 2022. Exhibition proposals will be reviewed by the curatorial team of the McLean Project for the Arts. All works must fit through an 81" x 64" doorway.

### Submit Now



## Shop Bloomies Holiday Event to Support MPA

MPA and Bloomies in the Mosaic District invite you to a holiday shopping event to support McLean Project for the Arts! [Click here](#) for additional information, or to RSVP.

**When:** Thursdays, December 9, 4-7pm

**Where:** Bloomies, 2920 District Avenue, Mosaic District

RSVP to [this eventbrite link](#) by December 6, and when you check in the day of the event, you'll receive a \$25 gift certificate to shop!

### RSVP Now



## McLean Community Center – Community Survey

The McLean Community Center (MCC) has engaged AMS Planning & Research to provide support in planning future operations and programming.

Hearing from community members like you is important to this process, and we invite you to provide your input on the McLean Community Center's provisions, programs and goals.

Five random survey entries will be selected to win a \$60 voucher to use toward any MCC-sponsored activity, such as a class, summer camp, OFC day trip or dance or two tickets to an Alden Theatre performance. One-time use only up to \$60.

Your responses will be confidential. Thank you in advance for your time and participation! The survey will end on Friday, Dec. 3. [Click here to take the survey](#).

### Complete a Community Survey



## MPA in the News

**Tyson's Reporter: Park Authority Tweaks Proposed Plan for Clemmyjontti Arts Center** (11/01/2021)

**The Washington Post: In the Galleries—Biennial Survey Celebrates Mid-Atlantic Artists of Many Mediums** (10/29/2021)

## Support MPA with AmazonSmile

If you're looking for a simple, automatic way to continue supporting MPA, consider starting your amazon shopping at [www.smile.amazon.com](#). You shop as you normally would on the site—at no extra cost—and you don't need to make a separate account. The AmazonSmile program donates .5% of your eligible purchases to MPA. For more information on how to use AmazonSmile, [click here](#).

### DONATE NOW!



1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean, VA 22101  
[View modified gallery hours here.](#)

[Hours and Directions](#) | [www.mpaart.org](#) | 703.790.1953