

McLean Project for the Arts



MPA Exhibits, Educates, Inspires... JOIN US!

Sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to our #GivingTuesday campaign. Thanks to your support, we met our goal of \$15,000! Many thanks to all of our amazing donors, and a special thanks to our matching gift donors, Pamela and David Danner.

Looking forward, McLean Project for the Arts is proud to celebrate our 60th anniversary in 2022! As we have since 1962, we continue to adapt and grow as we fulfill our mission of connecting art and community. With your support, we are stronger than ever and are looking ahead to the next chapter of our story.

Please join MPA in fulfilling our mission by [making a tax-deductible year-end contribution](#). **Make your gift today!**

Contribute to MPA



MPA Winter Exhibitions: Virtual Artist Talk January 20

MPA invites you to join us on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 7pm for a Virtual Artist Talk. [RSVP here](#). The talk will include the artists behind our [two current exhibitions](#), *Give and Take: Building Form* (Emerson Gallery), which showcases abstract wood sculpture by Emilie Benes Brzezinski, Rachel Rotenberg, Foon Sham and Norma Schwartz, and *Intersectional Painting: Works by Sheila Crider* (Atrium Gallery). Underwritten by Pamela and David Danner, both shows run through February 9, 2022.

Give and Take and *Intersectional Painting* are now available online. [Visit our website to view the Virtual Exhibitions](#).

Visiting Our Galleries

The Atrium Gallery Exhibition (*Intersectional Painting*) is available for viewing during McLean Community Center operating hours. The Emerson Gallery exhibit (*Give and Take: Building Form*) is open for visitors Tuesdays through Fridays from 1-4pm and Saturdays from 10am-3pm. Masks are required to be worn at all times inside the galleries and building.

Please note: MPA's Emerson Gallery & offices will be closed Wed., Dec. 22 through Mon., Jan. 3.

(Pictured, from top: Emerson Gallery exhibit- Sheila Crider, "Securing the Bag"; Sheila Crider, "Killing Air")

RSVP to the Virtual Artist Talk



MPA Faculty Member Spotlight: Pamela Saunders

"Friends will be made, fun will be had, life lessons will be learned."

- Pamela Saunders

Pamela Saunders—or "Miss Pam," as her students call her—is an artist, art specialist and a mom whose passion, purpose and profession is inspiring kids through fun and engaging art lessons. Pamela strives to create art projects that inspire, empower and encourage children to develop skills, confidence and curiosity. Says Pamela: "Friends will be made, fun will be had, life lessons will be learned."

Since 2004, Pamela has offered classes in person at local schools as part of their PTA sponsored after-school enrichment programs. Pamela began teaching art camps and classes for MPA in 2019.

This [winter](#) and/or [spring](#), join Pamela in our DuVal Studio for her **NEW** class, [Youth and Watercolor Studio](#). Held on Wednesdays from 10-11:30 am, the class is perfect for homeschool students. Winter Classes begin on February 2, and the spring session starts April 13. [Visit our website](#) for more information on this class, or to learn more about all of MPA's winter and spring offerings.

Explore Our Winter/Spring Class Offerings



MPA ArtReach Update

As we head into our holiday break, it was wonderful to host in-person visits to our gallery this week by two of our program partners: students from Oakton High School's Adapted Curriculum program (the same students ArtReach Director Sharon Fishel had worked with this fall in a visit to their school), and a group from Second Story's Culmore Safe Youth program. Both groups enjoyed tours of our two current exhibitions, and then created their own art in a weaving project based on Sheila Crider's work. Thank you to these two partners for finding ways to safely visit our galleries during this continuing Covid-19 time . . . we look forward to working with more of our ArtReach partners in the New Year, as we adapt our programming to safely continue our outreach! To make a gift in support of MPA ArtReach, [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. **Deadline for submission: January 7, 2022.**

Submit Now

MPA Receives ArtsFairfax Grant

MPA is excited to announce that it is among 12 Fairfax County art organizations sharing just over \$100,000 in funding through ArtFairfax's "Arts Ignite Recovery" (AIR) initiative.

ArtsFairfax (AIR) grant program to support arts groups as they emerge from the pandemic and restart their programming. MPA's grant will support the award-winning ArtReach program, which engages students, seniors and individuals with special needs in exhibition-based arts programs.

Thank you to ArtsFairfax for their continued support. Read the complete InsideNOVA article below.

Read the InsideNOVA Article

MPA Welcomes New Staff Members!

MPA is excited to welcome the following new members to our staff.

- **Laura Gleason, Director of Advancement:** Laura has dedicated her career to philanthropy having most recently served as the Director of Advancement for the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum where she led a \$250 million campaign. She previously held leadership roles in advancement at George Mason University and George Washington University. As a long-time McLean resident, Laura is excited to give back to her community and help in the fundraising efforts to build the future Arts and Education Center at Clemjyontri.
- **Jennifer Jeannot, Director of Strategic Initiatives:** In her role as Director of Strategic Initiatives, Jennifer works across multiple MPA projects offering counsel, enhancing fundraising efforts, and ensuring strategic goals are established and met. Formerly a regulatory and compliance attorney at Clifford Chance LLP, Jennifer advised numerous corporate and nonprofit clients on general corporate matters, governance issues, and contract negotiation. Jennifer lives in McLean, Virginia with her husband, four active sons, and their beloved, 11-year old English Cream Golden Retriever, Trooper.
- **Jackie Shepard, Deputy Director:** Previously at Marriott International and AOL, Jackie joined MPA as Deputy Director in November 2020. She began her career at Advertising Agencies after graduating from Rhodes College in Memphis, TN where she received a Cello Performance scholarship. Jackie lives in McLean with her husband, two children and dog Millie.

A very warm welcome to Laura, Jennifer, and Jackie!



Thank You for Your Support!

A group from the MPA Board, Advisory Board, staff and artist friends enjoyed a visit last Saturday, Dec. 11, to Terzo Piano gallery in DC for a private tour of Board Member Helen Fredericks' exhibition *SANJEEVANI, From Here to There*. The show features a wide variety of works, including paintings, drawings, constructions, prints, and handmade artist books, as well as techniques in which Frederick is a key innovator, hand papermaking and pulp painting. Thanks to all who joined us—the exhibition continues through January 9, 2022.

And thanks to the MPA supporters who joined us Thursday, Dec. 9 at the Bloomies Shopping Benefit in the Mosaic District! Guests enjoyed a fun evening shopping for holiday gifts, and sampling beverages from the store's Colada restaurant. We appreciate Bloomies' generous support of MPA!



MPA in the News

[Connection Newspapers: McLean Project for the Arts ISO Solo Exhibition Proposals](#) (12/2/2021)

[Inside NOVA: Fairfax Arts Groups to Share in COVID-era Grant Funding](#) (11/15/2021)

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