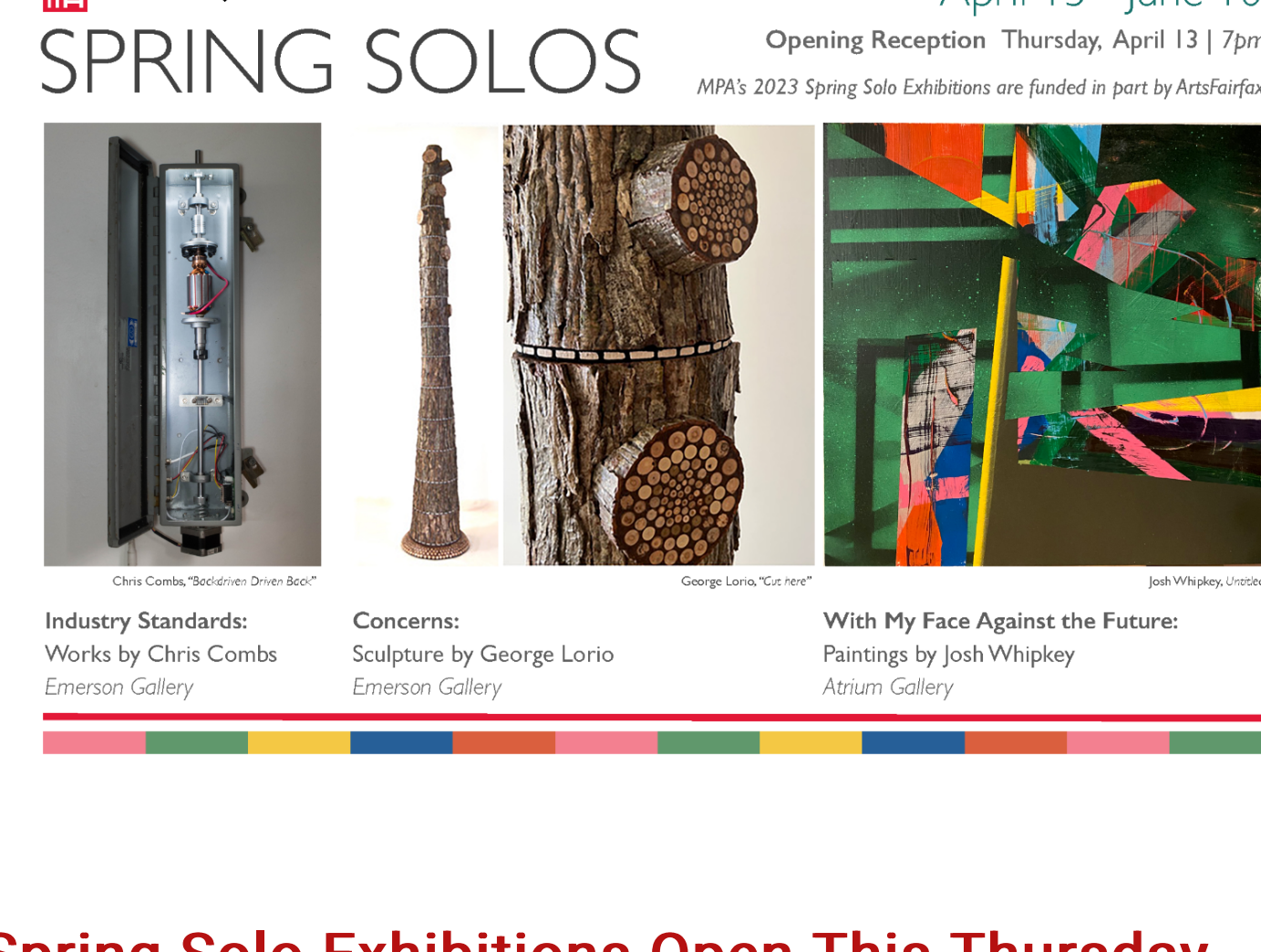




## McLean Project for the Arts



### Spring Solo Exhibitions Open This Thursday, April 13!

McLean Project for the Arts will open its [Spring Solo Exhibitions](#) this Thursday, April 13, 2023. Featured works include *Industry Standards: Works by Chris Combs*, *Concerns: Sculpture by George Lorio*, and *With My Face Against the Future: Paintings by Josh Whipkey*. The exhibitions will run through June 10, 2023, with an [Opening Exhibition Reception](#) on Thursday, April 13, 2023 from 7-9pm. [RSVP here](#).

#### *Industry Standards: Works by Chris Combs*

**Chris Combs'** sculptures are made from reclaimed or surplus industrial components. Pulled together to both perform a task (of the artists' making) and draw the viewer in aesthetically and technically, the pieces seem almost familiar and yet strangely new. While addressing themes of technology, surveillance and the destruction of the environment, Combs creates sculptures which are at once ominous and distinctly playful.

#### *Concerns: Sculpture by George Lorio*

In **George Lorio's** sculptures, tree-like forms are presented as metaphorical references to the possibility of healing and regeneration. Built from a combination of plywood armatures and found bark and twigs, the works exemplify a partnership between human effort and the natural world. Exuding a calm beauty, and both complexity and simplicity, these sculptures inspire a meditation on the necessity of valuing our environment.

#### *With My Face Against the Future: Paintings by Josh Whipkey*

**Josh Whipkey's** paintings explore anxiety from physical, experiential, and philosophical perspectives. His smaller abstractions are full of high frequency color and dynamic geometric lines and shapes. Energy is built both within the edges of each individual painting and in each painting's relationship to another. The exhibit features both smaller works that are more compressed compositions to recent paintings that are larger, more spacious and leave room for thoughtful philosophical contemplation upon the nature of reality itself.

#### NEW Gallery Hours

The MPA Atrium Gallery will be available for viewing during [McLean Community Center operating hours](#). The Emerson Gallery will be open for visitors Mondays through Saturdays from 10am - 4pm.

MPA's 2023 Spring Solo Exhibitions are funded in part by [ArtsFairfax](#).

[RSVP to the April 13 Opening Reception](#)



### Save the Date: Spring Benefit is May 18! Sponsorships Now Available!

Please mark your calendars and join us on **Thursday, May 18, 2023** for **MPA's signature spring fête, Spring Benefit**. MPA relies on the funds raised at Spring Benefit to further its mission of connecting art & community. Co-chaired by Marsha Muawwad and Natalie von Seelen, the May 18th sunset party will take place at the Wildersmoor House in Great Falls. Several stunning pieces by the renowned McLean sculptor Emilie Benes Brzezinski will be featured onsite during the event. Additionally, Spring Benefit 2023 will feature the music of The Bitter Dose Combo, DC's premier gypsy jazz and swing band, and Abbie Palmer, a multi-genre harpist. The event will also include fare from Windows Catering Company.

#### About Wildersmoor House

Join us for an evening nestled among pastoral rolling hills at Wildersmoor House in Great Falls. This year's location offers an enchanting experience, rivaling the great homes of the English countryside, and features over 17 acres of lush rolling hills, as well as a picturesque lake evoking a timeless sense of wonder and awe.

**Please consider joining us as a Spring Benefit sponsor** to help support our mission to continue adapting and connecting art and community. A wide variety of sponsorship levels are available—offering options for both individuals and corporate entities. [Visit our events website to learn more](#).

Limited individual Spring Benefit ticket sales open April 17, 2023.

[Sponsor Spring Benefit](#)



### Don't Miss Out on MPA Summer Art Camps

Summer is right around the corner, and MPA is ready to celebrate with art, fun, and creativity!

MPA's Summer Art Camps will run from June 27-August 12, with both half- and full-day options available. [Check out our weekly camp themes and dates here](#), and register today. Offerings include [MPA Art Camps](#) (ages 6-13) and [Abrakadoodle Camps](#) (ages 3-6), as well as our [CIT program](#). Sign up now to secure your spot—and don't forget to invite a friend!

[Register Now for Summer Art Camp](#)

### Register Now for Spring Art Classes! Sessions begin April 13, 2023

Spring has arrived—and so has the start of MPA's Spring Art Class lineup. Offerings include some of our long-time favorites, as well as exciting new debut options. We have several exciting workshop offerings—including a **NEW April 23 'Creating Artwork with Layered Paper: Spring Flowers' workshop** (Fridays from 5-7:30pm, beginning April 14 and Saturdays from 10:30am-1:30pm, beginning April 15.) For our younger artists, the spring schedule features **Abrakadoodle Twoosy Doodlers**, **Abrakadoodle Mini Doodlers**, and our **NEW Abrakadoodle: Kids on Canvas** class.

MPA will be holding spring classes both online and in-studio. [Visit our website](#) for a complete list of class offerings.

[MPA Spring Art Classes](#)



### MPA ArtReach Spring Solos Gallery Guide Available

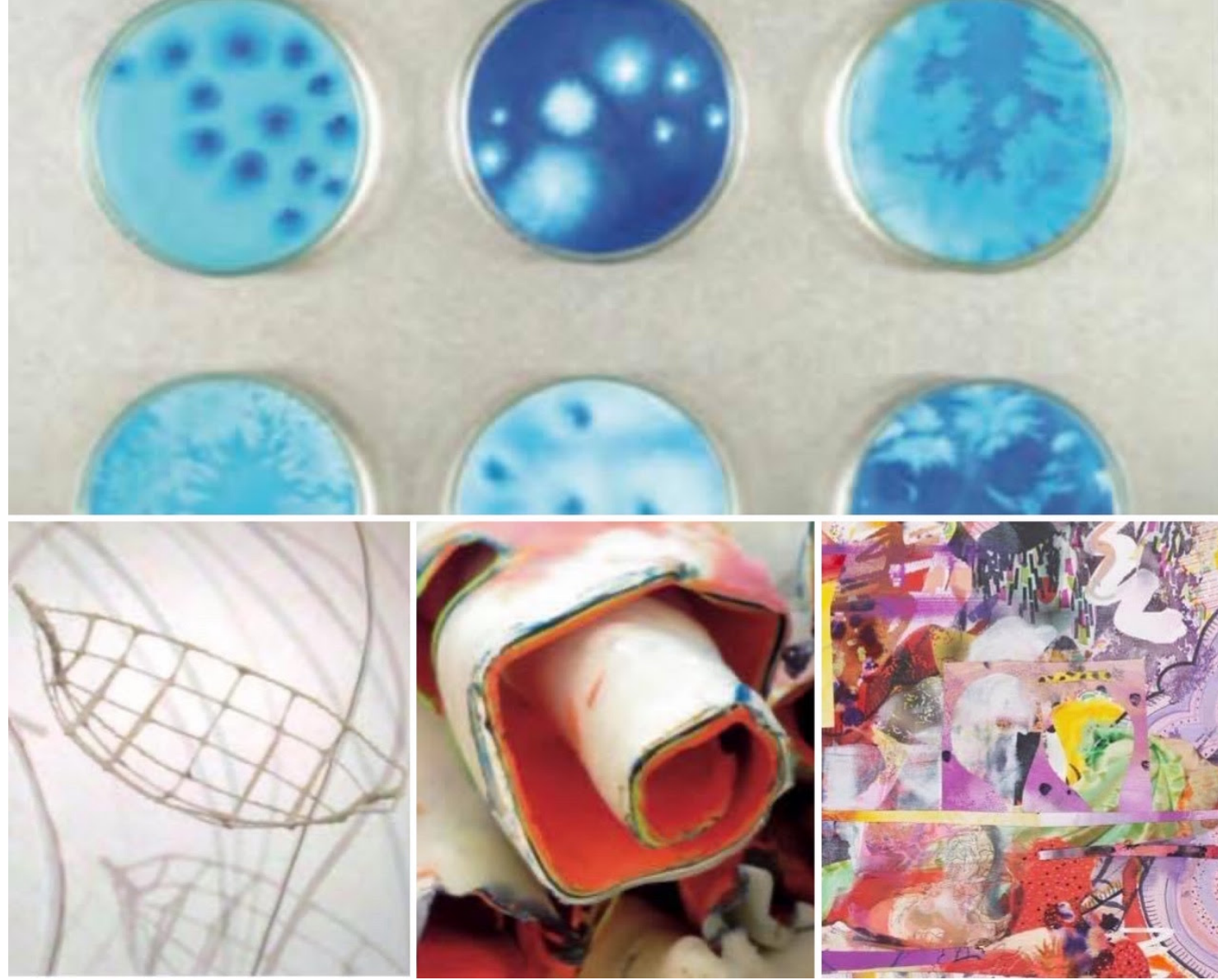
MPA's ArtReach and Director Sharon Fishel will be welcoming FCPS Title I school tours and community groups to our galleries in the coming weeks to view our new Spring Solos exhibitions. Each tour will feature drawing opportunities via this new Gallery Guide as well as a guided look at the work of the exhibitions' three solo artists, engaging students grades K-6 with STEAM-based SOL concepts for Science, Engineering and Math.

Watch our social media for highlights of these ArtReach tours, and if you're in the gallery and want to expand on your experience with a child or teen, pick up a copy of our new Gallery Guide. To learn more about our ArtReach program and schedule a tour, email Briana at [bclorey@mpaart.org](mailto:bclorey@mpaart.org).

Our generous donors provide funds to subsidize school bus transportation for FCPS Title I schools and we're grateful to ArtsFairfax for the funding to support this Gallery Guide and the Catalog for our Spring Solos exhibitions.

If you'd like to make a contribution towards this outreach, [visit our website](#).

[MPA ArtReach](#)



### Follow Us on Social Media!

MPA currently has more than 2,200 [Instagram](#) followers—thank you to everyone who engages with us! We love having you. Don't forget to also follow our [MPA Events Instagram page](#), as well as our [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) accounts, and [sign up to receive our newsletters](#). We look forward to connecting with you online!



### MPA in the News

**Fairfax County Times:** [Dulles Art Walk Brightens Security Lines](#) (04/07/2023)

**DC Style is Real:** [McLean Project for the Arts to Open Spring Solo Exhibitions April 13](#) (03/25/2023)

**McLean Patch:** [Works by Three Artists Featured by McLean Project for the Arts this Spring](#) (03/13/2023)

**Connection Newspapers:** [McLean Project for the Arts Youth Art Shows Open March](#) 1 (03/02/2023)

### 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](http://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](#).

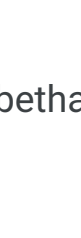
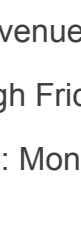
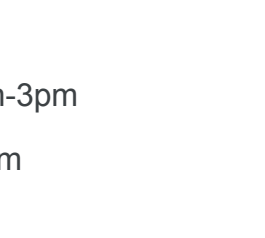
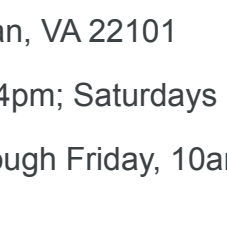
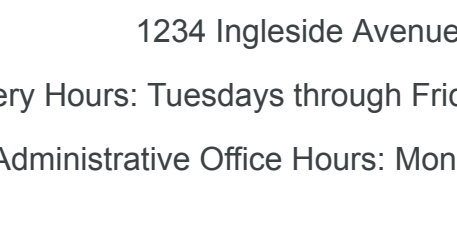
### MPA Calendar of Events

**April 13-June 10, 2023:** Spring Solo Exhibitions

**April 13, 2023:** Spring Solos Opening Exhibition Reception, 7-9pm

**Thursday, May 18, 2023:** MPA Spring Benefit 2023

[→ DONATE NOW!](#)



1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean, VA 22101  
Gallery Hours: Tuesdays through Fridays, 1-4pm; Saturdays 10am-3pm  
Administrative Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 10am-4pm

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