

## McLean Project for the Arts



### Thank You for Supporting Spring Benefit 2023!

Thank you to all who joined us for our 2023 MPA Spring Benefit. It was a joy to be together on the grounds of the stunning Wildersmoor House in Great Falls. We were thrilled to share Emilie Brzezinski's extraordinary sculptures exhibited for the evening—her wood creations were a perfect complement to the beautiful gardens.

Endless gratitude to our Spring Benefit co-chairs Marsha Muawwad and Natalie von Seelen, and all of our community partners and sponsors.

We wanted to share access to the fabulous Tony Powell photos from the event. Please see this link to our Spring Benefit 2023 gallery. It should allow you to view and download photos. Sincere thanks to Tony Powell for these beautiful shots.

By supporting MPA Spring Benefit, you make the mission of MPA possible every day: supporting established and emerging artists along the East Coast, introducing hundreds of children in Title I schools to contemporary art, expanding the world of special needs individuals through art and bringing art and classes to seniors.

On behalf of all of us at MPA, our warmest thanks for your generosity. Together, we're making a difference in our community.

[Download Spring Benefit Photos](#)



### MPAartfest 2023: Call for Entries Closes June 17

Calling all artists! **MPA is currently seeking submissions for our 17th annual MPAartfest!**

MPAartfest 2023 will consist of a one-day in-person juried fine arts and craft show held in McLean Central Park on October 1, 2023. Accepted Artists will be provided one tent on October 1, and will receive recognition on the MPAartfest website.

MPAartfest was recently recognized by [Sunshine Artist as one of the Top 100 Fine Art and Design Shows](#).

Artists retain 100 percent of in-park sales from MPAartfest.  
**Deadline for Submissions:** June 17, 2023 (\$350)

Additional rules and submission instructions are available [here](#).

[Apply Now](#)



### MPA ArtReach Concludes Busy Spring Season

MPA's ArtReach and Director Sharon Fishel have had a busy and rewarding spring hosting close to 500 FCPS Title I elementary students, in addition to many other community groups, for tours of our Spring Solos exhibitions.

It's been wonderful to see elementary students from schools including Beech Tree Elementary, Belvedere Elementary, Timber Lane Elementary, Greenbriar Elementary, as well as Special Ed and Best Buddies groups from McLean High School, engage with our three Spring Solo exhibitions.

This outreach is a key part of our mission at MPA and we're grateful to the donors who help provide the funding to reimburse these Title I schools for the bus transportation that makes these field trips possible. We're also grateful to ArtsFairfax for the recent Project Support Grant that provided additional funds to enhance these field trips with a special Gallery Guide to the exhibitions and a catalogue documenting the work of these three artists. The accompanying interview with Director Sharon Fishel and Artistic Director and Curator Nancy Sausser provides more information about this award-winning outreach and connection to our MPA mission.

Here are a couple of comments from school groups:

"Thank you so much for the amazing opportunity for our second-grade class! Our Timber Lane Tigers really enjoyed the art exhibits, with the wood sculptures being our favorite! We had a great time learning about the art, the artist, and the science that could be connected along with it. The packets and activities were very helpful with keeping us engaged and our parent chaperones also learned a lot. We hope that you will be able to invite us back again next year with a new batch of second graders!"  
*Erica Helfrich, Timber Lane Elementary*

"Our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class from Greenbriar East Elementary School from FCPS had the opportunity to go on a field trip to McLean Project for the Arts. Firstly, the teachers were impressed with the exhibit's relevance to their students. They appreciated the professionalism and enthusiasm of the staff. Teachers have already expressed booking for next year's cohort. Secondly, the students thought the exhibit was so fun and engaging. Many of them said they had never been to a 'place like this' and wanted to find more. Kudos to the team. Look forward to next year!"  
*Moonee Doan, Greenbriar East Elementary*

If you'd like to make a contribution to support our MPA ArtReach program, [visit our website](#).

[Read the Complete ArtsFairfax Article](#)



### Last Chance to View Spring Solo Exhibitions

**Closing Exhibition and Artist Talk Thursday, June 8 at 7pm**

Stop by McLean Project for the Arts this week to experience our [Spring Solo Exhibitions](#). 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 a Closing Exhibition Artist Talk on Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 7pm.

#### 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](#).

[Exhibition Information](#)



### MPA Summer Art Camps Begin 3 Weeks from Today--It's Not Too Late to Register!

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

Our sessions begin June 26 and offer a range of exciting and diverse themes, including Mask-querade!, Hand Building with Clay, Crazy Wacky Sculptures, Pop Art, Mythical Creatures, and more. Camps run through 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](#)



### MPA in the News

**FFXnow:** [Solo Artist Shows Now Open in McLean](#) (05/15/2023)

**Gazette Leader:** [McLean Project for the Arts Seeking Artist Exhibitors](#) (04/29/2023)

### 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](#). 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

**Through June 10, 2023:** Spring Solo Exhibitions

**Thursday, June 8, 2023:** Spring Solos Closing Exhibition Artist Talk, 7pm

**September 14 - November 11, 2023:** (Not) Strictly Painting Juried Show (Call for entries to be announced soon)

**September 14, 2023:** (Not) Strictly Painting Opening Exhibition Reception, 7-9pm

**October 1, 2023:** 17th Annual MPAartfest

**December 8, 2023 - February 17, 2024:** Winter Exhibitions--*Moving Beyond Beauty: Reverence and Reclamation* (Emerson Gallery, Atrium Gallery exhibition TBA)

**December 8, 2023:** Winter Exhibition Opening Reception, 7-9pm

[→ 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](#) | 703.790.1953