



## McLean Project for the Arts

A message from our Executive Director



### Artistic Notes

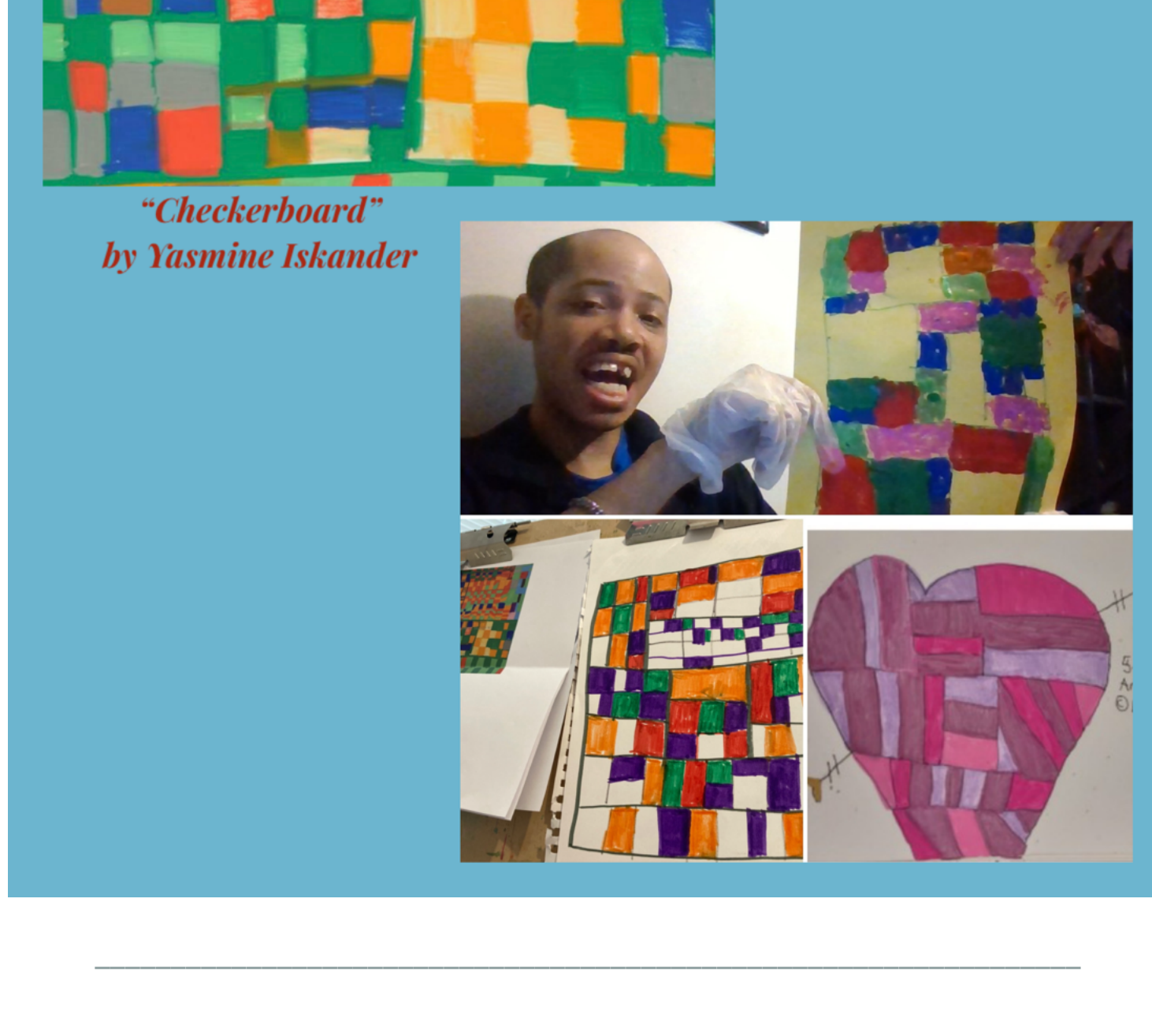
Dear MPA Friends and Supporters,

One of the best parts of my job is having my office here in the gallery. It's a real privilege to start my day surrounded by art, whether I'm welcoming new visitors or soaking in our latest exhibition.

Something that makes my gallery experience extra special is witnessing the incredible work of Sharon Fishel, who leads our signature outreach program, MPA ArtReach. Sharon, along with our Artistic Director Nancy Sausser, creates arts education programs based on our exhibitions to engage and serve FCPS students, seniors, and individuals with disabilities.

Sharon's session last week was inspired by the vibrant art of Yasmine C. Iskander, capturing both the spirit of Yasmine's life and the creativity of Sharon's students. It was a beautiful tribute, especially after our community had just gathered to celebrate Yasmine's life. Sharon's dedication to her work is truly inspiring, and having Yasmine's art hanging above my desk in the gallery is a meaningful reminder of the impact of art. Please stop by and see it next time you're here! Below, please enjoy Yasmine Iskander's painting, and the MPA ArtReach student projects inspired by it.

Lori Carbonneau  
MPA Executive Director



### Spring Solos Exhibition Events

#### Artist Talk June 1; Tea & Talk June 4

Kick off your summer at MPA with two exciting [Spring Solo Exhibition](#) Events! On **Saturday, June 1 at 11am**, MPA Curator and Artistic Director **Nancy Sausser** will host an **Artist Talk** with our three featured Spring Solo artists, Osvaldo Mesa, Laura Grothaus, and Abol Bahadori. On **Tuesday, June 4 at 11am**, MPA will host a **Tea & Talk**. Guests are invited to enjoy a cup of tea and discuss the exhibitions—*Toys in the Hands of History*; *Paintings by Osvaldo Mesa*, *Return to the Library of L.E. Grothaus: Altered Books* by Laura Grothaus, and *Inner Gardens: Works by Abol Bahadori*—with the MPA team. Both events are free and open to the public.

#### Visiting Our Galleries

The MPA Atrium Gallery is available for viewing during McLean Community Center operating hours. The Emerson Gallery is open for visitors Mondays through Saturdays from 10am – 4pm.

MPA's 2024 Spring Solo Exhibitions are funded in part by ArtsFairfax.

### Exhibition Information



### Spring Benefit 2024 is May 16—Secure Your Sponsorship and Tickets Today!

Please mark your calendars and join us on **Thursday, May 16, 2024** for MPA's signature spring fête, Spring Benefit. Co-chaired by Cynthia Steele Vance and Mandy Mafi, the May 16 sunset party will take place at the McLean home of Mark Lowham and Joseph Ruzzo.

This year's Spring Benefit will feature an exhibition of works by **Chee Keong Kung**, a contemporary artist specializing in metal and mixed media sculptures and installations. Masters in the art of "turning a room full of guests into a ball," local band **DC Martini** will provide entertainment for the evening. Our silent auction will feature the **Roche Bobois** Apex ottoman, designed by Sacha Lakic. Entirely round and quilted, this ottoman offers the perfect blend of aesthetics and comfort. Its unique design, shape, and size make it a versatile seating option that easily complements any interior decor. **Delegated Kathleen Murphy**, who recently retired after representing Virginia's 34th District since 2015, will serve as this year's Spring Benefit Guest of Honor.

**Spring Benefit individual tickets are currently available.** MPA relies on the funds raised at Spring Benefit to further its mission to educate and inspire the community through contemporary visual arts exhibitions and arts education programs—including MPA ArtReach, which extends these exhibitions into the community through gallery tours and workshops for FCPS Title I elementary schools and other underserved groups.

For your convenience, make a secure payment online at:  
<https://mpaart.org/springbenefit2024/>.

Thank you for your generous support. We hope to see you on May 16!

### Event Information



### Register Now for MPA Summer Art Camps!

Summer is right around the corner... have you secured your child's summer camp plans? Artists of all ages are invited to join MPA Summer Art Camps. Limited space is still available in select sessions.

MPA's weekly themed camps are a great way to discover and explore a different art medium, make new friendships, and create artworks for friends and family to enjoy. Our camps have something for everyone, from ages 3 to 18.

Offerings include [MPA Art Camps](#) (ages 6-13) and [AbraKadoodle Camps](#) (ages 3-6), as well as our [CIT program](#). Sessions run June 24-August 9. [Sign up now to secure your spot](#)—popular weeks are filling fast!

Please review our [MPA Summer Camp Policies & Procedures](#). Contact Briana Clorey at [bclorey@mpaart.org](mailto:bclorey@mpaart.org) for more information.

### Register for MPA Summer Art Camps



### MPA ArtReach Hosts McLean Boy Scouts

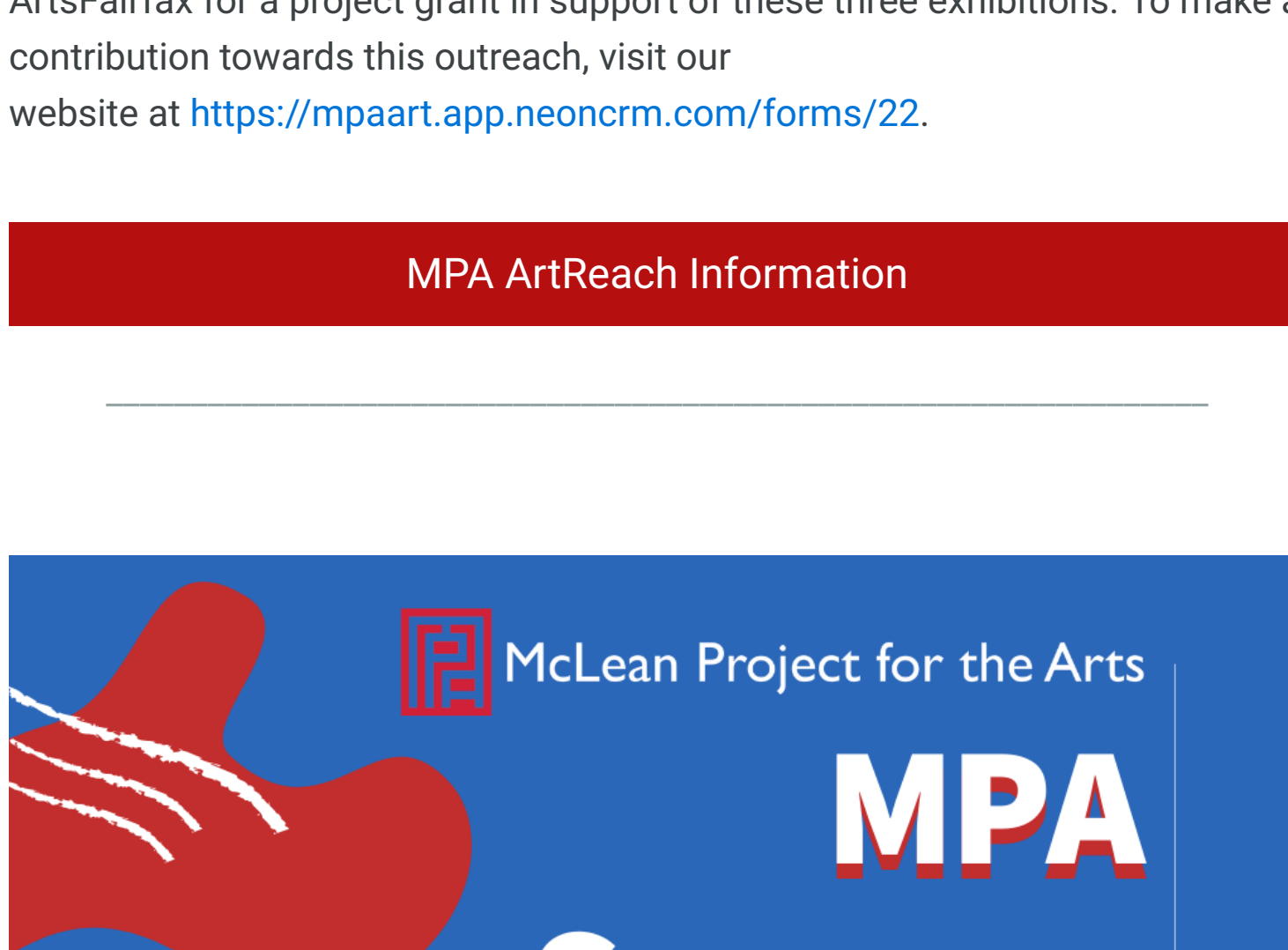
MPA ArtReach Director Sharon Fishel recently hosted a great group of Boy Scouts - Den 1 Webelos from Cub Scout Pack 1127 of McLean - for a Saturday ArtReach tour and workshop. The Scouts also participated in an in-gallery workshop where they created "magic books" in the theme of one of our Spring Solo artist's work.

It was an extraordinary group of Scouts, according to Fishel - "so informed and interested in the themes they recognized in the work of our three artists. They shared great responses about seeing references to mythology and symbolism in the art... it was a delightful tour filled with insightful comments."

We love sharing our ArtReach and exhibitions with community and school groups of all ages. Stop in and pick up a new ArtReach Gallery Guide (pictured) which we use in our tours, and also have available free of charge for any visitors to our galleries. The guide is filled with thought provoking questions and activities to complement viewing the work of our three Spring Solos artists.

To learn more about our ArtReach program and schedule a tour for your school or group, email Briana Clorey at [bclorey@mpaart.org](mailto:bclorey@mpaart.org). MPA will subsidize school bus transportation for Title I schools and is grateful to ArtsFairfax for a project grant in support of these three exhibitions. To make a contribution towards this outreach, visit our website at <https://mpaart.app.neoncrm.com/forms/22>.

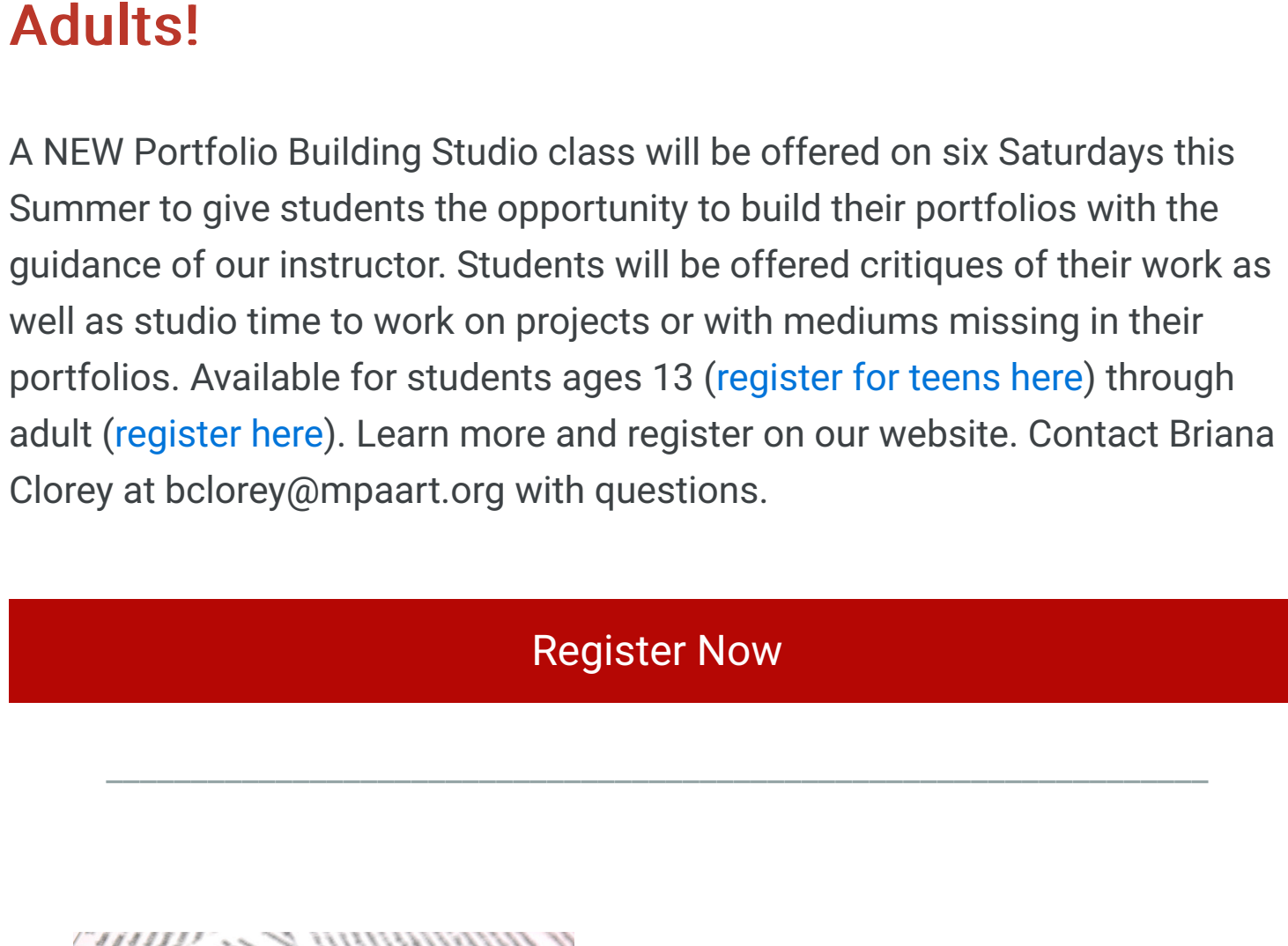
### MPA ArtReach Information



### \*NEW\* Summer Portfolio Class for Teens and Adults!

A NEW Portfolio Building Studio class will be offered on six Saturdays this Summer to give students the opportunity to build their portfolios with the guidance of our instructor. Students will be offered critiques of their work as well as studio time to work on projects or with mediums missing in their portfolios. Available for students ages 13 ([register for teens here](#)) through adult ([register here](#)). Learn more and register on our website. Contact Briana Clorey at [bclorey@mpaart.org](mailto:bclorey@mpaart.org) with questions.

### Register Now



### MPA in the News

**GazetteLeader:** [McLean Project for the Arts to Open Solo Exhibitions](#) (03/27/2024)

**District Fray:** [Discover the Art of Mesa, Grothaus, and Bahadori](#) (03/24/2024)

**TysonsToday:** [McLean Project for the Arts' Spring Benefit Set for May 16](#) (03/13/2024)

**GazetteLeader:** [McLean Project for the Arts Sets Date, Place for Spring Gala](#) (03/08/2024)

### MPA Calendar of Events

**Through June 15, 2024:** Spring Solos Events

**May 16:** MPA Spring Benefit 2024, 7:30-9:30pm

**June 1:** Spring Solos In-Person Artist Talk, 11am

**June 4:** Spring Solos Tea & Talk, 11am

**September 12, 2024:** *Sculpture NOW* 2024 Opening Exhibition Reception, 7-9pm

**September 12 - October 26, 2024:** *Sculpture NOW* 2024 - Washington Sculptors Group Juried Exhibition

→ DONATE NOW!



1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean, VA 22101  
Gallery Hours: Monday through Saturday, 10am-4pm  
Administrative Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 10am-4pm

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