

McLean Project for the Arts

A message from our Artistic Director



Artistic Notes

For the early Fall exhibition MPA is delighted to partner once again with the Washington Sculptors Group (WSG) to present the area-wide juried sculpture survey *Sculpture NOW*. Washington Sculptors Group is a wonderfully active volunteer-led organization that promotes awareness and understanding of sculpture while fostering the exchange of ideas among sculptors, collectors and the public. MPA is certainly aligned with that worthwhile mission.

The *Sculpture NOW* exhibition, which I had the honor of jurying, reaches deep into the incredibly varied and accomplished community of sculptors in the DMV. Close to 150 artists submitted and over 60 were chosen to participate. The pieces include all manner of media, process and approaches.

The concepts and ideas explored are wide-ranging as well, but there is a notable deep and understandable interest in delving into environmental concerns and also a large number of artists making three-dimensional work for wall display. We're excited to be installing the exhibit this week, and plan an active schedule of related educational offerings. We hope you'll join us!

Nancy Sausser
MPA Curator and Artistic Director

Sculpture NOW Information



Sculpture NOW 2024 Opens This Thursday, September 12

MPA's Fall 2024 exhibition—*Sculpture NOW 2024*—will be a juried exhibit with the Washington Sculptors Group.

The exhibition will run Thursday, September 12 – Saturday, October 26, 2024, with an Opening Reception Thursday, September 12 from 7-9pm. On Saturday, September 21 at 11am, MPA will host an Artist Talk, and on Thursday, October 24 at 11am a Tea & Talk will take place in MPA's galleries.

Sculpture NOW 2024 is a non-thematic exhibition of new works, finished within the last two years. Nancy Sausser, MPA Artistic Director and Curator, juried the show. Please visit our website for a complete list of participating artists.

This exhibition is made possible thanks to the generous support of the Rotary Club of McLean.

Learn More



Italian Design Week – Celebrating Italian Leaders and Their Achievements!

Mark your calendars and join MPA for Italian Design Week 2024's IDW Gala, Friday, October 4, 2024 at 7:30pm at The Willard in Washington DC. Join IDW for an unforgettable evening honoring the brilliance, innovation, and contributions of Italian leaders. Award honorees include Heinz Beck, a 3-star Michelin culinary genius; Roberto Coin, a renowned jeweler; and Flavio Manzoni, Chief Designer Officer of Ferrari. The event will feature a silent auction with many great items!

A portion of the IDW Gala proceeds benefit MPA.

Purchase IDW Gala Tickets



Fall Art Class Registration Now Open – Meet Our New Instructor, Nataliya Gurshman!

MPA is excited to be adding several new instructors and new classes to our Fall arts education lineup. Meet one of our new instructors, Nataliya Gurshman:

I am a professional artist and a college professor (GMU, Marymount and NOVA). I am passionate about my students and their creative process and improvement. Outside of teaching 6 college classes per semester, I prepare portfolios with students for college admissions covering all range of techniques, topics and disciplines. I get lots of Fashion Design applicants and although the majority of students are applying to US colleges, occasionally I get students desiring to go to European schools. I recently had a student who worked with me on a fashion portfolio and she got accepted to four (4) top ranked Parisian fashion schools. Therefore, I am excited to teach a Fashion Illustration class here for sure.

–Nataliya Gurshman

Nataliya Gurshman is a professional artist and college professor (at George Mason University, Marymount University and Northern Virginia Community College). She has a passion for her students and their creative process and improvement, and particularly enjoys working with them on their college admissions portfolios. To learn more, visit: <http://www.natikart.com/>.

This fall, Nataliya will teach **Fashion Design & Illustration on Wednesdays from 6-8pm**, beginning October 9.

Other **NEW** offerings for fall include:

- **Intro to Oil, with Stephanie Chang** – Tuesdays, 10am-12:30pm, beginning September 25
(...interested in working with oils? You may also like Landscape in Oil (Virtual), with Joyce Lee – Thursdays, 7-9:30pm, beginning September 26)
- **Exploring Landscapes with Pastels** – Sundays, 2-4pm, beginning November 17
- **Cross Currents in Contemporary Art, with Sharon Fishel** – (offsite class that meets at various galleries) – Fridays, 1-4pm, beginning October 11
- **Portrait and Figure Painting, with Stephanie Chang** – Tuesdays, 10am-1pm, beginning November 12

Workshop offerings include:

- **Perspective of Lavender Fields, with Ronni Jolles** – Sunday, September 22, 12:30-4:30 pm
- **Creating Artwork with Layered Paper: Italian Townhouse, with Ronni Jolles** – October 27, 1-4pm
- **Creating Artwork with Layered Paper: Poppies by the Water, with Ronni Jolles** – November 3, 1-4pm

Finally – we are excited to once again offer our popular **Open Studio** – Saturdays, 10:30am-1:30pm, beginning October 5.

Youth art class offerings include:

For younger children, we're again offering our popular **Abakadoodle** classes – a great first art education experience for preschool children.

- **Abakadoodle Twoosy Doodlers** – Tuesdays, 10-10:45, beginning October 1; Thursdays, 10-10:45, beginning October 3; Saturdays, 10-10:45am, beginning October 5
- **Abakadoodle Mini Doodlers** – Tuesdays, 11am-12pm, beginning October 1; Thursdays, 11am-12pm, beginning October 3; Saturday, 11am-12pm, beginning October 5
- **Drawing Basics, with Ahmed Zaidan (Teens)** – Saturdays, 2-4pm, beginning October 5
- **NEW! Fashion & Design Illustration (Teens)**, with Nataliya Gurshman, Wednesdays, 6-8pm, beginning October 9

For detailed descriptions on all of our fall classes, [visit our website](#). Contact Briana Clorey at bcloreym@mpaart.org with questions.

Explore MPA Art Classes



September 9-13 is National Arts in Education Week!

Did you know that arts engagement in children often leads to improved peer, teacher, and adult relationships, better behavior, reduced risk of depression, and fewer social issues in adolescence.

Americans for the Arts

Fairfax County Public Schools are back in session for a new school year, and now is the time to schedule an ArtReach tour as teachers begin planning field trips for this school year. Tours are also available for afterschool programs, nonprofit groups, scouting groups, and other community groups of all ages and abilities.

This Fall's ArtReach tours will focus on our upcoming *Sculpture NOW 2024* exhibition, with a focus on Math in Art.

This program introduces and promotes critical thinking for grades K-6, encouraging students to look carefully, discuss and draw from this diverse and exciting group of contemporary sculptures.

We will explore both math concepts as well as sculptural languages through our in-gallery tour, hands-on drawing and writing and activity booklet and create a slot-paper sculpture as a hands-on, in-gallery project.

The elements of art – volume, shape, color and line will also be emphasized while viewing the sculptures. Math concepts K-6 will be covered, including geometry, symmetry, set and numerical patterns, spatial thinking, and identifying geometric and organic structures.

In-gallery tours and discussions enable students to think about how they look at art, as well as share questions they may have about the various sculptures in this exhibition. We will also discover how each sculptor is inventing and experimenting in their artistic practice through the use of a variety of materials and individual methods of sculptural construction.

There is no charge for this ArtReach program and MPA will subsidize bus transportation for FCPS Title I schools. Tours are offered on Monday and Friday mornings in September and October. To learn more please contact Briana Clorey at bcloreym@mpaart.org

To make a contribution towards this outreach, visit our website at <https://mpaart.app.neoncrm.com/forms/22>.

MPA ArtReach

Reminder: MPAartfest 2024 Cancelled

Due to the Fairfax County Park Authority's revitalization project at McLean Central Park, MPAartfest is cancelled for 2024. We hope to see you next year! Many thanks to Fairfax County Park Authority for the work they are doing to beautify McLean.



Children's Art Walk Returns!

Although MPAartfest will not take place this year, we are thrilled to announce that our annual Children's Art Walk will return to our galleries. MPA is working with area schools to once again feature a Children's Art Walk later this fall. Stay tuned for more information!



UPCOMING EVENTS

MPA in the News

GazetteLeader: [Art Organizations Team Up for Sculpture Exhibition in McLean \(09/04/2024\)](#) (09/09/2024)

Arlington Magazine: [20 Awesome Things to Do in September](#) 'Sio Roho Yangu' Screening] (08/29/2024)

Tysons Today: [McLean Project for the Arts to Host Screening of Independent Short Film, 'Sio Roho Yangu – Not My Soul'](#) (08/22/2024)

MPA Calendar of Events

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

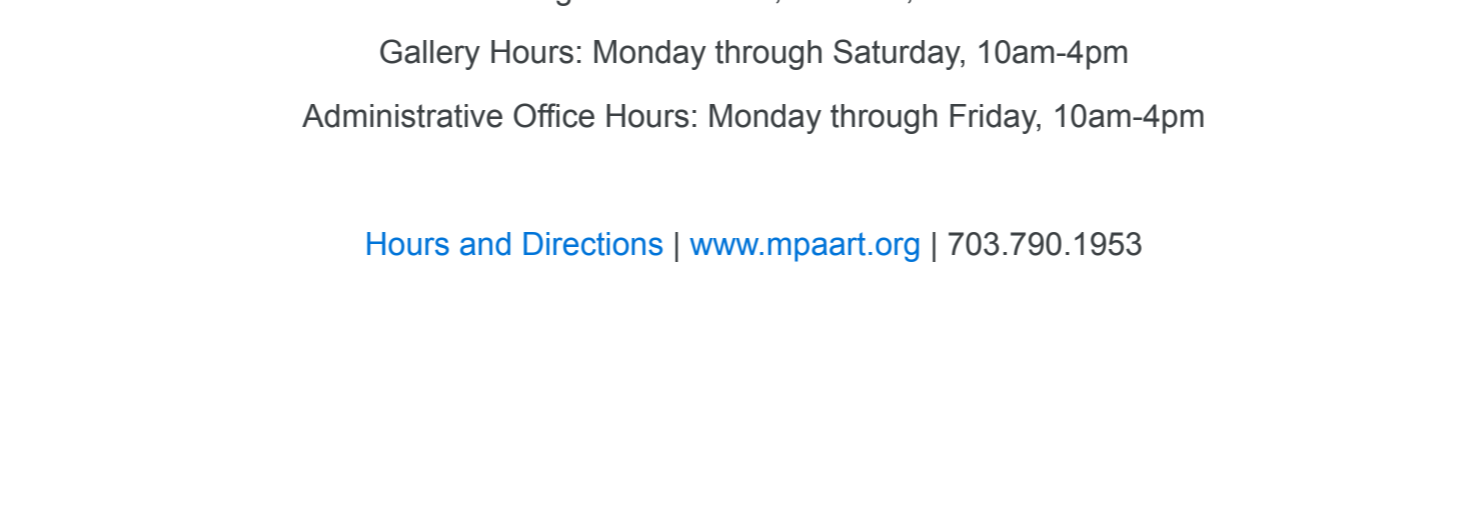
September 21, 2024: *Sculpture NOW* Artist Talk, 11am

October 4, 2024: IDW Gala, 7:30pm at The Willard in Washington DC

October 24, 2024: *Sculpture NOW* Tea & Talk, 11am

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 | 703.790.1953

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