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# P McLean Project for the Arts

A message from our Executive Director



### **Artistic Notes**

Dear MPA Friends and Supporters,

It has been such a fabulous few weeks for our MPA community, and I'm excited to share two fantastic developments in our goal to establish a second location for our programming in the heart of downtown McLean! A few weeks ago, we celebrated the closing of the purchase of ground floor space in the Signet building for the development of this new center. And just last week, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors confirmed their support by approving \$500,000 from the County's Economic Opportunity Reserve (EOR) toward the construction of this new arts facility.

This new space will allow MPA to broaden our reach, offering more exhibition opportunities for artists and expanding our capacity for additional workshops and educational programs. It will also serve as a catalyst for increased community engagement in a revitalized downtown McLean, providing generous space for community gatherings, music performances, and other public programming. This new center will be a place where art and community intersect, enhancing cultural experiences for everyone.

The arts and education center is poised to drive both cultural enrichment and economic vitality in downtown McLean, complementing our ongoing programming at the McLean Community Center. This project represents the dedication of our volunteer board of directors, advisory board, and staff, who have tirelessly pursued this vision.

Now, as we enter a more public phase of our Capital Campaign, we invite you to get involved. We need your help in identifying funding sources, considering your own financial gifts, and sharing this exciting news with your networks. Together, we can make this new space a shining light in the redevelopment of downtown McLean, furthering our long-held goal of connecting community and the arts.

Thank you, as always, for your generous support, especially as we approach our annual giving campaign. We are truly grateful!

With warmest regards,

Lori Carbonneau MPA Executive Director

Support MPA New Arts & Education Center



# NEWS: MPA Secures New Space and \$500,000 in County Support for New Arts and Education Center

In a significant milestone for the arts in Northern Virginia, MPA is thrilled to announce that we have secured a new space in the Signet Building in downtown McLean, setting the stage for the development of a state-of-the-art arts and education center. This new facility will complement MPA's current programming at the McLean Community Center and is expected to open in September 2025.

"This critical milestone would not have been possible without the dedication of the MPA board to expanding the good work of the MPA," said Fairfax County Supervisor Jimmy Bierman. "The arts and education center, located in the heart of McLean, will not only be a landmark for the arts, but will serve as a space for residents to gather and connect. Recently, the Board of Supervisors voted 9-0 to invest from the Economic Opportunity Reserve Fund, demonstrating our firm belief that this project will be a valuable cultural amenity, benefiting both the community and the county economically."

The new space will allow MPA to broaden its reach, offering a wider array of exhibitions, workshops, and educational programs, while also serving as a catalyst for increased community engagement.

The expanded location is a cornerstone of MPA's long-term vision to integrate

the arts into the everyday life of the McLean community. After this new location in the Elm Street District of downtown McLean opens, MPA will continue its ongoing exhibition, education and outreach programming at and in partnership with the McLean Community Center.

Learn More



## Join MPA October 24 for Two Exciting Exhibition Events!

Mark your calendars and join MPA on Thursday, October 24 for two exciting *Sculpture NOW 2024* exhibition events:

- Tea & Talk -- Thursday, October 24 at 11am: Guests are invited to enjoy a cup of tea and discuss the Sculpture NOW exhibition with the MPA team. This event is free and open to the public.
- Café Monett Wine Tasting -- Thursday, October 24 from 6:30-8pm: This is a free event during which guests can view the current exhibit, enjoy wine courtesy of Chain Bridge Cellars, and listen to a brief talk from MPA Curator and Artistic Director Nancy Sausser. All are invited!

*Sculpture NOW 2024* will through Saturday, October 26, 2024. This exhibition is made possible thanks to the generous support of the Rotary Club of McLean.

#### **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.

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 Design 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 -- Meet Our New Instructor, Bryan Jernigan!

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

"In my acrylic paintings, I want there to be an interplay between what is visible on the surface and the layers underneath. They are created from inward and outward experiences of nature. Based on both observation and memory, my paintings connect the reality of what is seen to the realm of what is felt. Color is the root of all my paintings. Invented color schemes, interlocking organic forms, and decisive brushwork characterize my work. It comes from a place deep inside. I hope it will touch a place deep inside the viewer. It's the expression of feelings, mysteries and things unspoken."

-- Bryan Jernigan, on his classes, workshops, and demonstrations

To view Bryan's works, please visit Bryan Jernigan, Artist.

This fall, Bryan will be teaching Exploring Landscapes with Pastels (Sundays, 2-4pm, beginning November 17).

Other **NEW** offerings for fall include:

- 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
- Exploring Landscapes with Pastels -- Sundays, 2-4pm, beginning November 17

For detailed descriptions on all of our fall classes, visit our website. Contact Briana Clorey at bclorey@mpaart.org with questions.

#### Explore MPA Art Classes



# MPA's ArtReach Outreach Program with Director Sharon Fishel has Kicked Off Fall Tours to View *Sculpture NOW 2024*

MPA's ArtReach outreach program with Director Sharon Fishel has kicked off fall tours to view our Sculpture NOW 2024 exhibition.

Last week included visits from Second Story's Safe Youth Project in Annandale as well as 4th graders from FCPS's Hybla Valley Elementary School. These free tours introduce and promote critical thinking for grades K-6, encouraging students to look carefully, discuss and draw from this diverse and exciting group of contemporary sculptures and create a slot-paper sculpture as a hands-on, in-gallery project.

Upcoming tours will feature additional FCPS elementary schools, ServiceSource groups of seniors and adults with disabilities, local seniors from Vinson Hall and many other community partners. Fishel also goes out into the community with the program, including follow-up visits with elementary schools, regular monthly art activities with the Special Ed program at McLean High School, and a renewed partnership with the Langston High School Continuation Program in Arlington.

There is no charge for this ArtReach program and MPA will subsidize bus transportation for FCPS Title I schools. To learn more please contact Briana Clorey at bclorey@mpaart.org.

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

Pictured: Recent ArtReach tours and activities.

MPA ArtReach

## Coming Soon!

Mark your calendars for these upcoming MPA fall/winter exhibitions:

Emerson Gallery: Vibrant Matter: Works from Wood Curated by MPA Assistant Curator and Gallery Manager Jennifer Lillis Atrium Gallery: Growth Patterns: Work by Amelia Hankin November 7, 2024 – January 4, 2025

**Opening Exhibition Reception:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 7pm

*Vibrant Matter: Works from Wood* will be an exhibition featuring a variety of printmaking techniques that explore the effect of material within creative practices. Pulling impressions from wood, the artists in the exhibit examine political theorist Jane Bennet's theory of "vital materialism": that matter itself, even inanimate objects, hold life and are active participants in the printing process.

Emerson Gallery: *Pieced Together, We are Whole* January 16 – February 22, 2025 Opening Exhibition Reception: Thursday, January 16 at 7pm

A curated exhibition featuring artists working in both fiber and sculptural assemblage media who bring together multiple components and elements, sometimes unexpected and disparate, to create an elegant and cohesive whole.

Upcoming Exhibitions



#### **Children's Art Walk Returns This Month!**

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



#### **MPA in the News**

**Greater Greater Washington**: Fairfax County Approves \$500k for New Arts Facility (09/30/2024)

**TysonsToday:** McLean Project for the Arts Secures New Space and \$500,000 in County Support for New Arts and Education Center (09/27/2024)

**FFXNow:** County Funds Approved for Future Arts Center in Downtown McLean (09/25/2024)

**GazetteLeader**: County Officials Toss in \$500,000 to Help 'Catalyst' for McLean (09/25/2024)

**FFXNow:** Sculpture Exhibition Coming to McLean (09/10/2024)

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



## MPA Calendar of Events

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

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

October 24, 2024: Café Monett Wine Tasting, 6:30-8pm

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

**November 7, 2024 - January 4, 2025:** *Vibrant Matter: Works from Wood* (Emerson Gallery) and *Growth Patterns: Works by* 

Amelia Rankin (Atrium Gallery)
November 14, 2024: Fall Exhibitions

Opening Reception, 7pm January 16 - February 22, 2025: Pieced Together, We are Whole

**January 16, 2025**: Pieced Together, We are Whole Opening Exhibition Reception, 7pm

→ DONATE NOW!



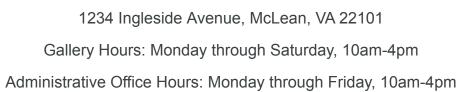




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