

A message from our Artistic Director



Artistic Notes

Dear MPA Friends and Supporters,

We are delighted to be opening two new exhibitions in our MPA galleries this Thursday, *Pieced Together, We are Whole* and *Playing with Shadows: Works by Liz Lescault*—with an Opening Exhibition Reception on Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 7pm. (The collage below features pieces of work by each artist.)

I am excited to bring together in our Emerson Gallery works by six artists in Pieced Together, We are Whole. Each is working primarily in fiber, through stitching, piecing, and otherwise bringing together materials, while also melding material, technique and ideas. The artists featured-Megan Koeppel, Susan J. Lapham, Russ Little, Dominie Nash, John Paradiso, and Imani W. Russell—all work non-traditionally within the quilting medium. Using a variety of approaches, the ideas explored are personal, political, and universal. Built into the making process, which entails the joining together of many parts to create a whole, is also the expression of ideas about communion, cohesion, gathering, blending, and building.

The plastic filament works by Liz Lescault in her Atrium Gallery solo exhibition, *Playing With Shadows*, are a natural complement. They echo fiber techniques like weaving and sewing, while also inventing a new way of working with a very contemporary material not often used in making art. In Playing with Shadows, Lescault's biomorphic sculptures are constructed primarily with extruded filaments, some sculptures incorporating found objects. The fine filaments create shadows that become part of the piece, sometimes indistinguishable from it. Liz is fascinated with remnants that illuminate the nature of organic entities and naturally occurring substances. Remnants and relics such as shadows, fossils and residues are a part of an object's story and can be used in discovery. Scientists use remnants to uncover the nature of objects that may no longer exist in their original form. Remnants can also explain more about the existing nature of an object, as is the case in *Playing with Shadows*.

In addition to the January 16 Opening Exhibition Reception, MPA will host an Artist Talk on Saturday, January 25 at 11am, and a Tea & Talk on Tuesday, February 11 at 11am. The exhibits run from January 16 - February 22, 2025. All events are free and open to the public.

We look forward to seeing you in our galleries!

With warmest regards, Nancy Sausser Artistic Director and Curator



Pictured, from top left: Susan J. Lapham, "Road Trip #6"; Liz Lescault, "Trundle"; Dominie Nash, "Transformation"; Russ Little, "Interaction #3"; John Paradiso, "Pink Around the Edges"; Imani W. Russell, Ode to "James A. Baldwin"

Exhibition Information



Coming Soon: *Pieced Together, We are* Whole and Playing with Shadows: Works by Liz Lesacult

Join MPA this Thursday, January 16 as we open our winter exhibitions, Pieced Together, We are Whole and Playing with Shadows: Works by Liz Lescault. The Opening Exhibition Reception will take place from 7-9pm.

In addition to the January 16 Opening Exhibition Reception, MPA will host an Artist Talk on Saturday, January 25 at 11am, and a Tea & Talk on Tuesday, February 11 at 11am. All events are free and open to the public.

MPA's Winter Exhibitions sponsored in part by the O'Shaughnessy-Hurst Foundation. Both shows run through February 22, 2025.

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.

Exhibition Information



Winter Art Class Registration Now Open!

This winter, come in from the cold and join MPA for an exciting lineup of Winter art classes for all ages, interests, and abilities. MPA's winter lineup includes many of our long-time favorites, as well as exciting new options, such as Plein Air with Stephanie Chang. We're also pleased to offer another season of **Creating Artwork with Layered Paper Workshops** with instructor Ronni Jolles. Unless otherwise noted, classes will take place in our DuVal Studio.

Limited availability remains in the following classes:

- Colorful Mixed Media with M. Jane Johnson -- Mondays, 10am-1pm,
- beginning January 27 • Cross Currents in Contemporary Art with Sharon Fishel (Off-site
- Class)-- Fridays, 1-3:30pm, beginning March 7 • Creating Artwork with Layered Paper Workshop: Italian Townhouses with Ronni Jolles, January 19, 2025 from 1-4pm
- Abrakadoodle Mini Doodlers -- Fridays, 11am-12pm, beginning January 24. Ages 3-6 years
- Abrakadoodle Doodlers -- Mondays, 4:30-5:30pm, beginning January 27. Ages 7-12

Open Studio

We're also pleased to announce the return of our always-popular Open Studio, with sessions on Saturdays from 10:30am-1:30pm, beginning January **25.** Full-session registration is available, as well as drop-in pricing (\$20/session).

Explore MPA Art Classes



MPA ArtReach Looks Ahead to 2025

As we begin the 2025 calendar year, MPA is excited to continue growing our MPA ArtReach program to reach our ever-expanding ArtReach community of FCPS school students, community partners, adults and seniors. ArtReach continues to focus on and prioritize our differently abled community who are making great artistic strides every week.

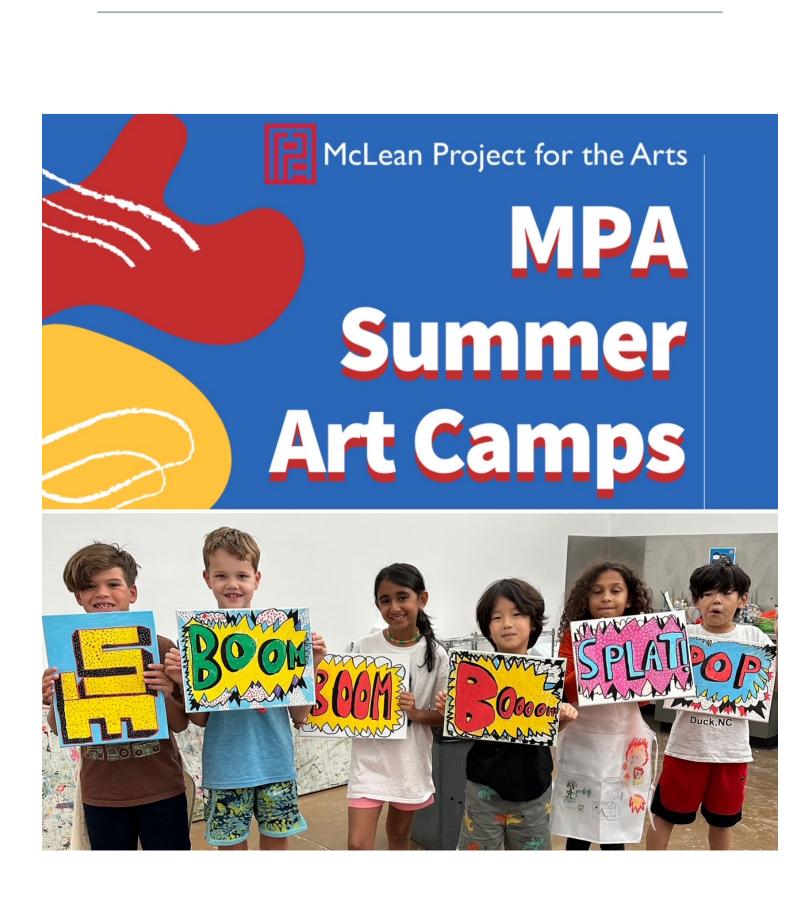
In 2024 alone, MPA ArtReach enriched the daily lives of 2,901 participants through 127 events. These 127 ArtReach events include virtual and in-person art classes, in-class slide lectures, as well as in-gallery tours for school age students, adults and seniors. We are also grateful to have been able to create an evergreen in-gallery / in-classroom art education booklet which engages students and adults, combining contemporary art with the Virgina Standards of Learning (SOL's) for Reading, Writing, Poetry and Drawing.

Our upcoming Winter exhibitions--which open this Thursday, January 16--will again bring Title 1 school groups into our gallery. We look forward to welcoming these students, and well as hosting return visits from SPARC Solutions and ServiceSource groups and Second Story Safe Youth Project participants. Finally, we are excited to continue providing in-depth STEAM programming of Art & Math for Special Needs populations, including classroom visits to McLean High School, Langley High School, and Langston High Alternative High School.

Your support fuels all of this incredible work, and we can't wait for what's ahead in 2025! Visit our website to make a gift in support of MPA ArtReach at www.mpaart.org.

Pictured: Langley High School Special Ed 3D collage project--Art+Math. Teachers: Ms. Millman and Ms. Dodd

MPA ArtReach



Save the Date: MPA Summer Art Camp **Registration Opens February 3!**

Registration opens MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3 for MPA's 2025 Summer ArtCamps. MPA's weekly themed camps are a great way to explore different art mediums, make new friendships, and create artworks for friends and family to enjoy. Our camps have something for everyone, from ages 6 to 18.

In addition to our MPA Art Camps (ages 6-13), we will once again offer our CIT program, designed to enrich the experience of older campers by providing them with an opportunity to experience working with younger children in a day-camp setting. Sessions run June 23 - August 8. Sign up early to secure your spot!

> McLean Project for the Arts Art in the HUART of McLean







of FCPS Title I learners.

Moving Beyond Beauty: Adam Bradley, Fury Rendering by Cannon Design Reverence and Exclamation Artist Talk 1234 Ingleside Avenue McLean, VA 22101 | 703.790.1953 | www.mpaart.org | @mp4a

Thank You for Supporting Our Annual Giving Campaign

Thank you to everyone who contributed to MPA's 2024 Annual Giving Campaign! Thanks to your generosity, we successfully met our budget goals. We're excited for a fantastic 2025 and all the incredible work we'll continue to do together to support the arts in our community.

If you haven't yet had a chance to participate and would like to do so, please visit our website. Your gift, big or small, makes a world of difference.

Thank you for being an essential part of our journey. We couldn't do it without you—thank you again!

Support MPA



McLean Community Center Celebrates 50 Years!

Congratulations to the McLean Community Center as they recently kicked off their 50th Anniversary celebration!

We applaud the programming and services they provide for the McLean Community and are proud of our long term partnership in providing the visual arts programming for the center!

About MCC





MPA in the News

Arlington Magazine: Fun Things to Do This January [Winter Exhibitions] (12/30/2024)

The Patch: 5 McLean Nonprofits to Support this Holiday Season (11/26/2024)

Washingtonian: Things to Do in the DC Area This Weekend [Winter Exhibitions Opening Reception] (11/22/2024)

East City Art: Sculpture NOW 2024 at McLean Project for the Arts (11/11/2024)

TysonsToday: Fall/Winter Exhibitions Debut at McLean Project for the Arts (11/09/2024)



Events January 16 - February 22, 2025: Pieced

Together, We are Whole and Playing with Shadows January 16, 2025: Winter Exhibitions

Opening Exhibition Reception, 7pm January 25, 2025: Winter Exhibitions Artist Talk, 11am

February 3, 2025: MPA Summer Art Camp registration opens!

February 11, 2025: Winter Exhibitions Tea & Talk, 11am

March 4-16, 2025: Youth Art Show (McLean Pyramid)

March 19-26, 2025: Youth Art Show (Langley Pyramid)

May 8, 2025: Spring Benefit 2025, at the home of Dharini & Reggie Aggarwal (More information to follow!)

DONATE NOW! \rightarrow









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