Dear AAPL Artists Members:

The 88th Grand National Exhibition is just around the corner. Have you selected your entry? I am looking forward to seeing you. We will have a new poet laureate, and we will be displaying your donated 8x8 pieces.

This year we are venturing again into new territory. We will be publishing our first online e-newsletter. The format will allow you to print a copy, if you desire. I would like to take this opportunity to say thanks to all our members and benefactors for their support, inspiration, and generosity. I would also like to thank our volunteer Board of Directors for their work in keeping our organization on message.

Our first theme show this year was the Landscape, Seascape, and Streetscape Show. This was an extremely strong show, and your commentary was productive for all our members toward reaching the didactic goals of the show.

The second show this year was a hanging show at the Ridgewood Art Institute. Your participation was greatly appreciated. We had a grand time, and the Prosecco was chilled.

Our third show - Portraiture, Figurative, and Animal - was the most difficult to judge. The quality and depth of all the entries was exceptional. Your participation in the commentary is getting better after each show. The Board and I were honored to be associated with the professional genius of the AAPL's members. Thank You.

I would like to take a moment to reiterate your club's value and purpose. Our headquarters are in the capital of the art world, New York City. You have the opportunity to display your work in a national venue at the Grand National Exhibition held at the Salma-gundi Club, and you also have the opportunity to be entered into our national catalog that will be printed and archived for online access for eternity. All this without the burden of being part of a limited access commercial gallery or the expense of advertising in publications such as the American Art Review, Fine Art Connoisseur, etc. The benefits to you far outweigh the nominal expense of membership.

I would like to share one aspect of our membership that concerns me. Many of our senior members are retiring from art because of age or health. How can we encourage them to participate in some aspect of our organization? Our members with the status of Fellow, Fellow Maxima Cum Laude, or Signature are all national and respected fine artists. They set the bar and are the inspiration for our next generation of artists. Member participation has seen the growth of our members with the status of Student, Associate, and Elected Artists. We all learn something every time we start a new piece. Art is a teachable craft, but what cannot be taught is the sensation and perception of beauty. There is a mystical, religious, transcendental quality called visual enlightenment, visual truth, or art spirit. When we see an art master's work, we experience the beauty of the artist becoming one with the whole. Please continue to share your years of experience with your fellow artist members. Try to critique our shows, and show your work in our Members Gallery. Use our Facebook page or contribute to our newsletter. To answer some recent submitted emails questions:

1. We are working on a new responsive website to accommodate the cell phones and tablets.

2. Yes, we have a Members Gallery. Just login to your membership account and click Members Gallery. You may place up to ten pieces of your work online at no charge.
3. There are new criteria under membership types.

Signature Member: You will have the honor of placing AAPL after your name on any your works. This honor status is available only to Fellow Maxima Cum Laude members. The criterion is to be the winner of a national award, two Frank C. Wright Memorial Grand National AAPL awards, or the equivalent (such as a Newington Award, Alden Bryan, or Art Spirit). Submit a one page essay “Why I should be honored the title of Signature Member”. The Signature Membership category requires a unanimous vote of approval by the National Board of Directors and/or appointed judges.

4. We plan to have a PleinAir theme show early next year.

In the past year we have had inquiries from Asia wishing to participate and join American Artists Professional League. They have told us of many art institutes and studios teaching and promoting western (American) art techniques. The Chinese, in particular, are fascinated with past American Artists Professional League members.

We checked our by-laws and found that we may accept artists whose work promotes and advances the cause of American art in the style from traditional representational to traditional realism. We therefore, have opened a new chartered chapter, The Chinese International Chapter, and a new member status “International Chapter Member” (ICM). The China Chapter will be chaired by our Board Member, Weiqing Yuan. We will monitor the success of this new venture and, if successful, we can explore a future European Chapter.

“Painting is poetry that is seen rather than felt, and poetry is painting that is felt rather than seen.” Leonardo da Vinci

Just a reminder - we need the 88th Grand National Exhibition Poet Laurate. Your poem will be read at our 88th Grand National Exhibition reception. Painting, sculpture, music, dance, and poetry are all artistic. This year we will have 300 pieces of “silent poetry” hanging and on pedestals in the gallery. We just need one piece of art that can be heard. Please consider submitting a poem, art-related, to be chosen and read at our reception and put into our Grand National Exhibition catalog. All forms are welcome - sonnet, haiku, abecedarian (Dr. Seuss), etc. Any meter – anapest, dactyl, elegiac, iambic, trochee, spondee, hip-hop, rap etc. is acceptable.

As president of this prestigious, national, and now international organization, it is my duty to remind you that we do not have enough income to continue to survive based on our endowment interest. Expenses exceed income, so it is up to you to support this national treasure. Below is one suggestion:

More than ever before, government funding and grant money for Arts programs and organizations like ours is almost non-existent. We must rely almost totally on the donations of our members for funding. If you have benefitted from your association with The American Artists Professional League, perhaps now is the time to consider a donation that can make a huge impact on future programs and educational scholarships.

As a proven supporter of the arts and probably an artist yourself, I would like to present an option to you when considering funding your annual charitable contributions. Current tax legislation permits you to transfer assets from your IRA to qualified charities, such as the American Artists Professional League, without increasing your taxable income for the year.

- The donor must be 70 years or older.
- Gifts can be of any size up to a maximum gift per donor to all qualified charities combined of $100,000.
- Distributions of IRA Charitable Rollover Gifts can apply toward satisfying one’s minimum age-related distribution requirements.
- The American Artists Fund is a 501c3 non-profit entity “qualified” to receive IRA Rollover gifts.
- To make an IRA Charitable Rollover Gift to American Artists Fund, have your IRA administrator make the gift on your behalf to: American Artists Fund, EIN 13-6161153. Note: donor should not take delivery of the IRA assets, but have the administrator of the IRA send the gift directly to the charity.

Please note that the information in this memo is provided as an educational service and is not intended as legal or tax advice.

There is still time for your 2016 gift to make a big impact for us in 2017.

Many thanks!
Michael Bignell, MD received Second Place at the Baltimore Watercolor Society Exhibit for Signature Members for his painting “After Yesterday: Elite Coach in Odessa, DE” in August. The juror’s comments: “The amount of work and detail drew me to this piece. I found the juxtaposition of the mirrored reflections of the historic buildings lining the street very interesting. One can also compare the reflection to a window looking back in time to what once was. The colors are very vivid and striking. Sometimes there is little emotion in photorealism, but this painting for me is about the reflection and the statement of the past and modern civilization.”

Joy Beckner, MO completed two new sculpture – a life sized Golden and a life sized miniature-smooth dachshund. Her work and monthly newsletters are on her website: www.joybeckner.com

Edwin Broussard, NJ won the HVAA Award for his oil painting “1906 Mandolin” in the Ridgewood Art Institute’s 2016 Tri-State Art Exhibition.

Deborah Dendler, MA held a solo exhibition, “Deborah Dendler Sculpture and Drawings,” at the Acton Memorial Library, Acton, MA; the show consisted of over forty bronze, epoxy bronze, porcelain and terracotta sculptures and reliefs, as well as portrait and figure drawings, most of which have never before been exhibited. Additionally, Ms. Dendler had two terra-cotta sculptures published in the Fall 2015 Issue 3 of Duen-de, the national literary journal of Goddard College, Plainfield, VT. Her website is: www.deborahdendler.com

Kathy Detrano, FL was recently notified that she has been granted Signature membership from the Pastel Society of the West Coast. She also holds Signature status with the Pastel Society of Tampa Bay and the Pastel Society of America. She is the former President of Pastel Society of Tampa Bay and is now a member of the Board of Governors of the Pastel Society of America.

Joseph Fama, NY had his oil paintings accepted into several national art exhibitions including: “Evening Show” in the 115th Annual Juried Art Exhibition at the Creative Arts Center in New Haven, CT in May/June; “Sunset” in the Wildscapes Art Exhibition at the Bennington Art Center in Bennington, VT in June/July; and “Barn-Summer” in the 25th Anniversary Juried Art Show held at the Breckenridge Fine Arts Center, Breckenridge, TX July through September 3rd. Mr. Fama’s website is: www.rhythminpainting.com
Nanci France-Vaz, NJ is a finalist in the OPA Eastern Regional Show at the Eisele Gallery in Cincinnati, OH for her painting of Burton Silverman called “Work in Progress, Homage to Burton Silverman.” It was also selected in the top favorite 15% for Bold Brush Painting contest.

Her painting “Prayers for The Ghetto” was selected as a finalist for the Allied Artists of America 103rd Annual Exhibit at the Salmagundi Club in September.

Ms. France-Vaz has started her own atelier called the Two River Atelier, a studio of Contemporary Realist Art located in her home in Atlantic Highlands. It is semi private study. The atelier was featured in the July edition of X.It Arzine Magazine put out by the Monmouth Arts Council. The program combines classical methods with contemporary tools and techniques of the 21st century.

Judi Gilden, NJ received the Genevieve Cain Award for Watercolor at the National Arts Club 117th Exhibition Artist Members Exhibition, The National Arts Club, NY. She participated in the National Association of Women Artists, Inc., 127th Annual Members’ Exhibition, and the Sylvia Wald & Po Kim Art Gallery, 417 Lafayette Street, NY, NY. Her painting, “Sunlight on the Vine” was juried into the Allied Artists of America, Inc., 103rd Annual Exhibition, held at the Salmagundi Club. Ms. Gilden was juried into “Rise Up!” at the Mansion at Strathmore, Bethesda, MD, and into “Women Artists Coast to Coast – West,” Washington State Convention Center, Seattle, WA, both NAWA Exhibits.
Laurie Harden, NJ is holding a joint exhibition of her work entitled "A Celebration of Life", at the Livingston Gallery through the end of September. She will be exhibiting over 30 representative pieces in oils and pastels covering figurative, animal and landscapes. Her website: www.laurieharden-us.com
Joan Lane, NY had two woodcut prints accepted into the traveling exhibition “Horizons for the Center for Contemporary Printmaking.” The exhibition premiered at Cork Printmakers at the Wandsworth Quey Gallery in Cork, Ireland in February and then traveled to Odense, Denmark. In addition, her work was accepted into several exhibitions including the Connecticut Academy of Fine Art Annual Exhibition in Mystic, CT, the Green Mountain Watercolor 5th Annual Exhibition in Waitsfield, VT, and the North East Watercolor Society Annual Exhibition and Members Shows.

Georgene McGonagle, CO, won Best of Show at Art Alliance's 21st Arts in Harmony, Elk River, MN, and was awarded First Place Sculpture at Sculpture Tour Salina, an outdoor exhibit of sculpture. In August, 2016 she exhibited for her 14th year, in the 33rd Annual Sculpture in the Park show, Loveland, Colorado, and in the FOPAS – Friends of the Denver Art Museum – Biennial Art Exhibition. This fall, she will show in the annual member show and national juried exhibition of American Women Artists, Bennington, VT, and the 46th National Exhibition of Women Artists of the West, RS Hanna Gallery, Fredericksburg, TX.

Eve Miller, SC received several awards for her pastel paintings including the following: Best in Show, Catharine Lorillard Wolfe Member Show 2016; 2016 Southeastern Pastel Society 17th International Exhibition Merit Award; 2016 Artist Magazine Annual Competition Finalist. Her work juried into the 2016 Pastel Society of America Annual Exhibition: Enduring Brilliance, and juried into The Connecticut Pastel Society 23rd Renaissance in Pastel. Her website: www.eve millerfineart.com

Ann Pember, NY released her newest digital book, Discover Your Inner Inspiration; it is offered in PDF format on a CD, or as a download on her website: www.annpember.com. Ms. Pember is featured in the June/July 2016 issue of International Artist Magazine #109 as a finalist in the Challenge #93, Florals & Gardens, for which she won the Third Award. The award is a Feature Article published in the July issue of American Art Collector Magazine. Ms. Pember had paintings selected for several national exhibitions including the Illinois Watercolor Society 32nd National Exhibition in May; CLWAC Members' Annual Show; Salmagundi Club, NYC May/June; Watercolor Society Of Alabama 75th National May/June; Pennsylvania Watercolor Society 37th international in July/August; the Allied Artists Annual, Salmagundi Club, NYC in September and the Pittsburgh Watercolor Society 70th Annual, PA, September. She taught a watercolor workshop in July 2016 in the Adirondacks and was a featured artist at the Adirondack Art Association Gallery in Essex, NY in July.

Donna Rossetti-Bailey, MA, has had work accepted into five juried exhibits and has won two recent First Place Awards for her soft pastel paintings. “Tree Line at Sunset” was judged First Place in Pastel and also sold at the South Shore Arts Festival Juried Exhibit in Cohasset, MA and “Autumn Glow” was awarded First Prize in Pastel at the Cape Cod Art Association juried The National 2016 Open Juried Exhibit in Barnstable, MA. “River Memory” won Third Prize for Pastel in the 2016 Scituate Arts Association Juried Art & Sculpture Show. Three of her pastels have been accepted into the upcoming exhibit, Contemporary Pastel: Cape Cod Landscapes, at the Cahoon Museum of American Art in Cotuit, MA, which runs through October 2, 2016. Also, three other pastels were accepted into the North River Arts Festival 2016 Juried Exhibit, held in Marshfield Hills, MA. Ms. Rossetti-Bailey will continue to teach pastel painting classes resuming in September at South Shore Art Center, Cohasset, MA and North River Arts Society, Marshfield Hills, MA. For further information contact Donna at DLRB@comcast.net. She has been invited to be a Juror of Acceptance and Awards at the Plymouth Center for the Arts 49th Annual Juried Art Show which will take place in late September at the Plymouth Guild, Plymouth, MA. Her website: www.DonnaRossetti-Bailey.com

Rosie Sandifer, NM exhibited her work extensively in national exhibitions including: Art on the Llano Estacado, Museum Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX in May; PAAC 20th Annual National Juried Show, Mary Williams Fine Arts-Boulder, CO, September 2016; PAPNM Plein Air Festival, Santa Fe, NM, June; California Art Club, Reflections in Water, Saint Mary’s College Museum of Art, Moraga, CA, June-August; San Juan Skyway Paint Out, Mesa Verde Foundation, June; Rim to Ruins Art Show, Saks Gallery, Denver, CO, upcoming in November 2016. Her website: www.rosiesandifer.com
Barry Shiff, NJ received Best Oil Painting award for “Constitution and Guerriere” at Fort Lee, Community Center, and Best Watercolor for “USF Constitution” at the Fort Lee Winter Festival. He exhibited his paintings at the Township of Washington Library (March), and the Presbyterian Church at Franklin Lakes (April).

Barbara Silbert, NY received the Annual Terri Shkuda Award for Broadening Creative Pursuits from The Art Guild at Elderfields, Manhasset, NY. She also won an Award of Merit for a pastel portrait at the Suburban Art League Open Show, in Woodbury, NY in June. Ms. Silbert is the Membership Chairperson for the Manhasset Art Association.

Kathleen Curran Smits, CT landscape oil painting “Hammonasset Morraine” was accepted into the Pan-dion Gallery on Fishers Island, NY this summer. Her work “Along the Water’s Edge”, another landscape in oil sold in August. She was invited to show in two venues this year as part of a group show entitled “Five Voices” at the Art League of New Britain in June, and a show at the Hospital for Special Care in September. Ms. Smits continues her work as a media arts adjunct faculty at Manchester Community College in CT as well as Connecticut Public Broadcasting Network Learning Lab’s Institute for Advanced Media. She finished her 14th year as the director of A Summer Arts Program in Wallingford CT, a summer art/music/theater/dance camp for elementary school children.

In addition to teaching, Kathleen continues to work on commissions; next up is a formal portrait in oils. This year she completed a commissioned series of five small landscapes of views of Fishers Island. Her travels around New England inspire her own work and she is now working on landscapes of New Hampshire, Maine and Connecticut.

Annie Strack, PA recently demonstrated oil painting en plein air for the John James Audubon center at Audubon, PA; acrylic painting techniques for Plaza Art Store in Rockville, MD; watercolor painting for the Gloucester County Art League in NJ; plein air painting demonstrations in both oils and watercolor for Brandywine Valley Plein Air Festival in DE, and watercolor painting at the Annual Meeting of the Philadelphia Watercolor Society in PA.

Barbara Walker, NC painting, “Kaaterskill Eluvies” has been selected for the 11th International Guild of Realism juried show in Gallery 1261 in Denver, CO which runs from through September 17. The painting has been selected to be featured in the September issue of American Art Collector.

Mike Walsh, NY a watercolor and oil painter, has just completed his first novel, a “mystery/thriller” trilogy. “Seance” is published by Indigosearess.com and will be followed by “Slain” and “Dreams.”

Barbara Kitty Williams, TN has been named a Member of Excellence (Signature Member) of the Southeastern Pastel Society. Her entry of “Buttercup” was accepted in the 2016 SPS International Exhibition at the Oglethorpe University Museum of Art in Atlanta. She has also had five works accepted for inclusion in publication by Nature Inspired Anthologies in the book Nature Inspired: Animals. The book is available online and from Amazon. Ms. Williams was inducted into the National Association of Women Artists as a Signature Member in the fall of 2015.

Leila Yassami, NY had her still life painting accepted in the Meritorious entry for the Richeson 75 Still Life and Flora 2016 competition and printed in the publication.

OTHER NEWS

The Pascack Art Association will be holding its 4th Tri-State Juried Exhibition September 17 – 30, 2016 at the Ridgewood Art Institute, 12 E. Glen Avenue, Ridgewood NJ. The reception will be held on Sunday, September 25th, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. All are welcome to attend.
DATES TO REMEMBER

88th Grand National Juried Exhibition
November 7th - 18th, 2016
Deadline for Entries: Saturday, September 24, 2016
Reception - Sunday, November 13th, 1 - 5 pm
@ Salmagundi Club
47 Fifth Avenue
NYC, NY 100003
For more information visit our website @ www.aaplinc.org

Call for newsletter info!
All information should be typed in narrative form or as a list and submitted via email.
Include all awards, solo shows, published works and other outstanding accomplishments.
Please do not send multiple letters of your achievements, show announcements or postcards!!
We want to include as many Members & Associates as possible, so please keep your news to the important facts. Group shows will be listed as space permits. All items for AAPL newsletter should be emailed to: office@aaplinc.org

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