



Gardner Area League of Artists

www.galagardner.org

Newsletter

August 2008

GALA Mission Statement

GALA was organized to promote the arts as an essential component of a healthy community. We believe that artistic expression is a community's greatest legacy for future generations. GALA will increase awareness and appreciation of the arts by way of exhibits, instruction, theater productions, musical programs and provision of scholarships to students in local schools.

Greetings GALA members!

We hope that this issue will be the first of a new series of newsletters. This is your publication and we need your input to make it interesting and valuable. Please send information on your shows, awards, events, workshops, or other news that you would like to share to webawr@comcast.net or mail to the GALA mailing address. Have an idea for future newsletter articles or suggestions for improvement? Send them along to us!

PLEASE NOTE: Issues of the newsletter will always be posted on the GALA web site, but we will mail out hard copies of this first issue only, to all members for which we do not have email addresses. Distribution of all future issues will be via email unless you notify us that you require a mailed copy. Therefore, if you receive this newsletter via postal mail, please either send your current email address to webawr@comcast.net or call GALA at 978-630-2340 to let us know that you need to continue receiving the newsletter via postal mail.

GALA General Meeting

A general meeting for GALA members will be held on Sept. 25, from 6-9:30 (6-7 Informal time; 7-9:30 program) in the Boland Room at Heywood-Wakefield Place.

This is a time for publicity photos for our Fall Art Show. You are invited to bring an art piece to display with an easel and your biography or artist statement.

Due to the tremendous success of their presentation at our last annual meeting, we have once again invited speakers from the Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts. The topic this time will either be "Gallery Contracts, Literary Contracts, Music Contracts, and Performance Contracts" or "Taxes for Artists".

Please contact Vicki Heidorn at 978-630-2340 if you will be able to bring refreshments to share. We hope to see you there!

GALA Fall Art Show - November 7, 8 & 9

The Gardner Senior Center at 294 Pleasant St. has graciously agreed to host our Fall Art Show on November 7, 8 & 9, with drop-off on Nov. 5.

The Call for Artists will be sent out in mid-September. It will also be available for download from the GALA web site (check back frequently).

The show will be judged. Each medium will have ribbon awards. We will offer a Best in Show cash prize of \$50, an overall second place will receive \$25, and the overall third place will win a one year extension of their GALA membership. In keeping with our desire to have a well-funded grant for a worthy high school artist in the spring, we hope you will donate an art item or get a donation from a local merchant. Items valued at \$50 or more will be offered in a silent auction; smaller items will be in the scholarship raffle.

Art Exhibit Opportunities

Take advantage of the following venues to exhibit your art by contacting the specific coordinator noted below.

Gardner Ale House: Janet Reed at jmracountrygirl@yahoo.com or 978-249-6812

Greater Gardner CDC: Sally Sargent at heysal48@comcast.net or 978-939-5454

Jumpin' Juice & Java: Maria Curcio at mariaangel33@yahoo.com or 978-939-2695

Help Wanted

JOIN THE BOARD

The Board of Directors want your input. The remaining meetings for this year are 9/8, 10/6, 10/27 & 12/1. Visitors are welcome.

Email us at info@galagardner.org or call 978-630-2340 for time & place.

Who do you know in the wider community with a passion consistent with our mission statement? We are looking for board members for 2 year terms.

HELP GALA GROW

Help us write a grant proposal for art administration and an art center.

Contact Nowell Francis at npfrancis@comcast.net or Vicki Heidorn at 978-630-2340.

NEED STUDIO SPACE?

Are you interested in renting studio space? Contact John LaRoche (978) 632-8638 x21.

“Speak Out” for an Arts Center in Greater Gardner

The new reality of the commercial viability of Gardner and neighboring towns has become more and more evident as the economy changes. We are now in a global market. Our saving graces are an educated population and the craft and creativity that are part of this region's history. One way to nurture both assets is to provide places where each can flourish. A permanent Center for the Arts where visual, performing and literary arts can be displayed and taught can help us nurture existing talent and develop new talent.

An Arts Center located in greater Gardner would attract people once again to this formerly thriving place. The Center would give people a reason to frequent the establishments that are here already. This, in turn, would encourage new businesses to open. It has been well documented that an energetic arts community provides immense benefits to a town or city; benefits which grow exponentially over time.

The creation of a Center for the Arts is a daunting effort, but the success experienced by other communities proves that it is feasible. It starts with a vision, some strong-willed individuals, constant vigilance in the search for funding sources, and the support of community leaders. GALA and other art organizations work in many ways to further this goal. We can all help by taking every opportunity to communicate our strong desire for an Arts Center to our public officials. If you have specific actions or ideas, please contact a member of the GALA board or write to info@galagardner.org.

GALA Web Site

The galagardner.org web site is a resource to which you can direct people. Our statistics indicate that the web site enjoys significant visitor traffic. It is one of the benefits of your GALA membership, so please take advantage of it by sending your information for any of the following (unless otherwise noted) to GALA, PO Box 1158, Gardner, MA 01440 or email to calendar@galagardner.org. Please include your contact info, so that we may reach you with questions if necessary.

Member News

Do you have an upcoming or current exhibit? Have you won an award? Are you working on a new project?

Calendar Listings

Do you or any art organization have information about art events, workshops or classes in the greater Gardner area that you would like to have listed in the GALA web site calendar? We welcome submissions for our calendar regardless of whether there is an affiliation with GALA.

Member directory

Members are not put on the web directory until they have specifically said what information they want public, to protect their confidentiality. You can download a member directory form from the GALA web site, or send us a message identifying the exact information you want publicized on the web site.

Featured Artist

To be a Featured Artist, you must be a current member of GALA and have exhibited at a GALA art show. Your artwork and artists statement will be displayed on the GALA web site homepage for approximately 4 to 6 weeks. After that time, your info is moved to the Featured Artists page where it remains for as long as you are a GALA member or until you ask that it be removed. A request to be a Featured Artist will be considered by the Board of Directors when you submit 6 to 8 photographs of your work and an artists statement to artwork@galagardner.org.

GALA

PO Box 1158
Gardner, MA 01440
978-630-2340

www.galagardner.org

GALA Board of Directors

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Newsletter Submissions

Have news about awards, shows, events, or workshops?

We would love to include it in the next newsletter!

Please send info to webawr@comcast.net or the GALA mailing address.