

Demo Artist, Sofia Gonzalez

ALA members enjoyed our March demo artist, Sofia Gonzalez, a fabric artist and Northern California native currently living and working in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Sofia considers her process a bit like cooking. She proceeded to boil some yellow onion skins in her dye pot, added silk fabric to the mix and created a light terracotta colored fabric. She said that silk absorbs the color better than cotton, and that you can add modifiers, such as alum, to make dyes brighter or duller. Even though Gonzalez takes good notes on her resulting colors, so many factors affect her results, that “the colors are different every time”.

She showed us her fabric sample swatches from other experiments with plants including red cabbage, sumac, eucalyptus, pomegranate, black bean, goldenrod, pokeweed, and many others.

Sofia received her MFA at California College of the Arts in San Francisco where she focused on furthering her skills in textiles and natural dye techniques. Her work has been exhibited throughout the United States including San Francisco, CA, Chicago, IL, Arkansas, Texas, Missouri, and Oklahoma.

<http://sofiavgonzalez.com>



April Meeting Demo Artist

You will not want to miss our April demo artist, Jessica Mongeon! www.Jessicamongeon.com.

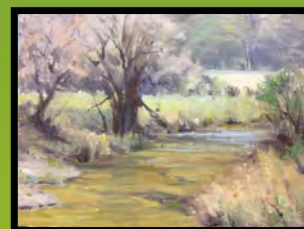
ARTISTS of THE MONTH



**March, 2017
Winners:**

- 1st - Clarence Cash
- 2nd - Glenda Josephson
- 3rd - Ed Rhodes
- 4th - Angela Hansard
- 5th - Miller Eddie Smith, Jr.

Bruce Peil Workshop



The ALA sponsored an artists' workshop with Bruce Peil from Athens, Texas, on March 16 and 17th at the Argenta Branch of Laman Library. In the workshop, Bruce Peil emphasized that values are the single most important thing to get right in a painting. He taught that the planes in a painting depend on the direction of the sun, with vertical planes being the darkest and overhead planes being the lightest. His limited palette included the warmest and coolest versions of the primary colors. His motto is "Work smarter not harder, think more, paint less." Bruce Peil is not only an accomplished artist but is also a great art instructor (<https://brucepeilart.com>).

A big thank you to ALA member Clarence Cash, who did a great job organizing the workshop and was even able to clear a generous dividend for ALA, after expenses were paid.

Awards and Recognition

Jeanie Fowler Rodriguez-Stone was selected to participate in the Artist, Inc., class sponsored by Mid-America Arts Alliance.

She also recently received an \$1,800 grant from Alternate Roots for professional development.

Her nonprofit, Traveling Arts Fiesta, is debuting its second season with performances, a Latino Art Show, and a lecture "The Art and Architecture of Havana", on Sat., April 22, 11:00 a.m. at the River Valley Arts Center in Russellville.

Jeanie's art was also included in the original NYC Nasty Women Exhibition in January and a 2nd installation piece will be featured in the window of Stage 18 in downtown Fayetteville, April 6th, 6-9 p.m. when the NWA Nasty Women Exhibition opens in three galleries. The opening coincides with art walk, and part of the proceeds will benefit the NWA Domestic Violence Association.



Sitting in the Stream, 6"x 12" oil on panel

Diana Harvey will be having a show at the Art4Spirit on upper Spring Street in Eureka Springs, during the month of May. The opening reception is May 6, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. All are invited.

Artwork

SOLD

Glenn Beasley sold 2 framed prints.

Vonda Rainey recently sold four pieces through Facebook and received 4 new commission orders.

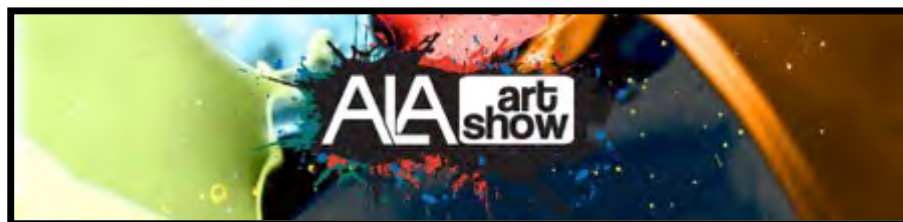
2017 ALA Members' Show

The 2017 ALA Members' Show will be at the Gallery of William F. Laman Library, Main Branch, 2801 Orange Street, North Little Rock. The exhibit will be on display from June 5th until July 28th. All ALA members, who are current on their dues, are eligible to enter one piece of their artwork. The entry fee for this exhibit is \$25. Prize money will be awarded at the reception: ALA Best of Show Gold Award, \$500; Pastel Society Silver Award, \$300; Mid-Southern Watercolorists Bronze Award, \$250, and People's Choice Award, \$100, as well as ribbon awards.

Event Schedule:

May 16	Entry Deadline
May 30-June 1	Art Drop Off at Laman Library Main Branch, 9 am - 5 pm
June 9	Awards Ceremony/Opening Reception, Friday, 6 - 8 pm
July 31-Aug 2	Art Pick Up

For more information contact: Louise Carlisle, louisecarlisle55@gmail.com or Sandy Kraft, sankraft@aol.com.



As we have previously announced, there will be no ALAartShow this year due to losing our venue. (Cantrell Gallery has been in a renovation project and their gallery space has been downsized.) The next ALAartShow is scheduled for 2018, at the Butler Center Galleries, 409 President Clinton Avenue, Little Rock. The opening date will be November 9, 2018, and the show will be on exhibit until February 23, 2019. More information about the 2018 ALAartShow will be given closer to the date.

ALA Board Members: *President- Rachel Trusty; President Elect – Sharon Franke; Treasurer – Patrick Edwards; Secretary – Sharon Franke; Newsletter Editor – Sandy Kraft; Clarence Cash, Susan Plunkett, Ed Rhodes and Miller Eddie Smith. Alternates: Louise Carlisle, Stacy Jones and Glenn Beasley.*