

BOARD MEMBERS

President:

Laura Lavarney

Vice President:

Stephanie McGee

Treasurer:

Peter Smolens

At-Large:

Maureen Guillot

1 Vacant



COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Artist of the Month:

Rebecca Neiss

Continuing Shows:

Laura Lavarney (acting)

Membership:

Josie Tullo

Newsletter:

Michele Frantz

Programs:

Michele Frantz (acting)

Publicity/Marketing:

Vacant

Shows:

Vacant

Website:

Chris Mendaros

Workshops:

Laura Lavarney (acting)

From the President

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Autumn Art Market. It was very well attended and we had a good amount of sales. I appreciate everyone's help in setting up and taking down a show like this.

I want to give a special shout out to Chris Mendaros, who is in the process of updating our website. Yeah Chris!

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and an art inspired New Year!

-- Laura Lavarney, President, MAG



December Meeting

If it's December, it must be time for our annual Christmas party! By now you should have seen the email asking folks to sign up to bring treats and such. Several people have already responded, but it's not too late to add your name to the list. Contact Laura at laura.lavarney@comcast.net if you haven't already done so.

Pizzas will be provided by MAG, and we'll also have games to play, some holiday music, and in general have a fun and festive time. Be there or be square!

The Christmas party will be on Sunday, December 14, 2-4 p.m. at the ARTFactory, 9419 Battle Street, Manassas.



Have any news you would like to share?

Send it to Michele at myarcadia2@gmail.com, she'll try to get it into a future newsletter.

Artist of the Month

December's AOTM is one of our newer members, Rebecca Neiss.

Rebecca grew up in Northern California as part of a large, lively family, where creativity was always encouraged. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she discovered watercolor painting and quickly fell in love with the medium. What began as a casual interest blossomed into a passionate pursuit, leading her to take classes and explore her artistic voice. Today, she lives in Northern Virginia with her husband and two children, continuing to nurture her love for painting.

Rebecca's work often features landscapes, flowers, and especially old farms and homes -- subjects that evoke a sense of nostalgia and quiet beauty. Her art reflects her deep appreciation for nature and history, capturing the charm of rural life with warmth and detail. Through her paintings, Rebecca shares glimpses of serenity, spirituality, and the enduring grace of the world around her.

Stores where we display:

ARTfactory, 9419 Battle Street
Black Metal Mercantile, 9105 Center Street
Grounds Central Station, 9360 Main Street
Jirani Coffeehouse, 9425 West Street.
Things I Love, 9084 Center Street

Upcoming AOTM:

Jan: Karen Suarez	Feb: Rebecca Neiss
March: Lisa Stewart	April: Peter Smolens
May: Michele Frantz	June: Josie Tullo

If you would like to be an AOTM, please contact Rebecca at rebeccaneiss9@gmail.com to get on the schedule.



Upcoming meetings

Below are the dates for MAG meetings in the first half of 2026. All meetings will be on the third Sunday of the month from 2 to 4 pm, except in June, when the meeting will be on the 4th Sunday. Meetings will be held at the ARTfactory, 9419 Battle Street, Manassas.

- **January 18:** Get ready for the ever-popular Critique Session! Bring a piece or two of your work, finished or unfinished, and get some useful feedback from your peers.
- **February 15:** Art supply swap! Bring all those art supplies you never use, and swap them for something you will. Leftovers will be donated to the ARTfactory or other institution.
- **March 15:** Tentative: we are hoping to have a demo on fluid acrylic painting; stay tuned.
- **April 19: TBA**
- **May 17: TBA**
- **June 28:** Prep for summer with a pizza party!

