

FCA Sculptor Klara Sever Honored

By Cheryl Miller



Sculptor Klara Sever poses with her sculpture "All God's Children" at EWI reception for Evelyn LaPierre Award winners.

Klara Sever, a Falls Church sculptor and FCA member, received an Evelyn LaPierre Award from Empowered Women International (EWI) on October 7. Sever, a native of Czechoslovakia, was honored as a role model for immigrant women who have become successful artists in the United States.



Five of Klara Sever's musical instrument sculptures were showcased at award ceremony.

EWI promotes immigrant and refugee women's arts, and advances their entrepreneurial skills for success. The Evelyn LaPierre Awards were created to "recognize unique accomplishments of ordinary immigrant women who live extraordinarily, and change the world through their vision and actions."

Jan DuPlain, Sever's publicist, introduced Klara as a "global citizen full of artistic zeal and imagination." Trained in art history and restoration, Klara began sculpting at the age of fourteen.

"Klara Sever is one of the most enterprising entrepreneurs I have ever met," said DuPlain. "She is one of those extraordinary individuals with original ideas for artistic change. She sees opportunities that others don't see."

(Continued on page 8)

Falls Church Arts' Scene

"A Home for the Arts" Raises Nearly \$5,000

Falls Church Arts' first fundraiser, "A Home for the Arts," held on September 25 was a great success!

About 125 people attended the benefit auction/house tour held in the newly built, Charles Moore-designed home graciously offered by the owner, Ruth Rodgers.

The art auction featured ten works donated by FCA artists. The artists and their works included "Winter Still" by Bill Abel, "Three Faces of the Sun" by Regina Barker-Barzel, "Washington at Night" by Jake McGuire, an untitled figure study by Ged McManus, "Through the Trees, Brightly..." by Lisa Neher, "Snowy Day" by Terri Rea, "Flower Piece #2" by Anne Rechter, "Swim Through the Fire" by Marc Robarge, "Frozen Leaf and Reflections" by Cathy Summers and "Some Time Ago" by Richard Wyvill.



Terri Rea loves to feature people and "quirky things" in her watercolors.

Some time in the next two years or so, FCA will have a permanent gallery home at the new Atlantic Realty development, Pearson Square, on South Maple Avenue. "A Home for the Arts"

(Continued on page 3)



Local sculptor Marc Robarge shows off his mixed-media sculpture, "Swim Through the Fire."



"Frozen Leaf and Reflections" captures Cathy Summers's photographic prowess. She says, "Photography is my passion and avocation."

President's Message:

The Shape of Falls Church Arts

By Tom Gittins



Sculpture is the theme for this issue of *The Scene* (not poetry!). Sculpture is the art of shaping and can take many forms: carving, chiseling, casting, molding or cutting.

For almost three years, Falls Church Arts (FCA) has been shaping the arts environment in the Falls Church area in different ways. FCA has cast five art shows, carved out several exhibit places in the business community through the Gallery Without Walls program, cut a new path at Cherry Hill Park by organizing Art in the Park at the popular Summer Concerts, chiseled performing and visual arts into the monthly FIRSTfriday of Falls Church events, and molded the community's awareness of FCA by sponsoring information booths at events such as the Memorial Day Festivities and Taste of Falls Church.

And like any developing sculptor, Falls Church Arts plans to grow and expand its work. Our first-ever fundraiser, "A Home for the Arts," successfully raised funds that will be used for interim gallery space until

our permanent home is ready some time in the near future at the new Pearson Square development on South Maple Avenue. Currently, FCA is actively seeking suitable retail space that can be our temporary home for exhibiting the work of local artists and help us further our mission of ensuring that the arts are an essential part of the cultural environment of the Falls Church area.

In the coming year, Falls Church Arts plans to mount two major art shows as well as continue the other programs and events noted above. In addition, we hope to identify ways to involve more students from the local schools in Falls Church Area, and broaden our focus to include more performing arts.

Sculptors work in any number of materials: wood, stone, metal, clay, etc. Maintaining and expanding FCA's programs and events requires materials. And the materials that Falls Church Arts needs are your talents, your time and your money.

You can invest your talents and time in lots of different ways: as an artist, as an FCA representative at community events, as a volunteer doing any number of tasks required to conduct a show, and so on...

Please invest your money in Falls Church Arts by renewing your membership, or by becoming a member, today. Annual support levels range from \$25 to \$2,500. The new year is almost here (more poetry!), and FCA needs funds to continue to promote artists and the arts and to shape the cultural environment of our community.

Thank you.

Visit our website: www.FallsChurchArts.org

Board of Directors

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Photos in this issue by Shaun van Steyn
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BECOME A MEMBER OF FALLS CHURCH ARTS!

Falls Church Arts (FCA) is a non-profit, community arts organization promoting functional and fine art, complementing the broad range of performing and visual arts activities in the Falls Church area.

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phones: (____) _____ (____) _____ E-mail: _____

I am a visual, performing, or literary artist. (Please describe): _____

I am a supporter of the arts. Areas of interest: _____

I am interested in volunteering. Areas of interest and/or expertise: _____

ANNUAL SUPPORT LEVELS:

SPONSOR: PRIME SPONSOR: \$2,500.

BENEFACTOR: \$1,000

SUPPORTER: \$100

FRIEND: INDIVIDUAL: \$35

HOUSEHOLD: \$50

STUDENT & SENIOR: \$25

Thank You for your Annual support! (Membership dues are tax deductible.)

USE THIS FORM TO SEND IN YOUR 2006 DUES. Please make checks payable to: FALLS CHURCH ARTS, Inc. • P. O. Box 6912, FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-6912



Two Washington, D.C. landmarks are featured in Jake McGuire's photograph "Washington at Night."

netted Falls Church Arts \$3,750 to use for interim gallery space until that space is ready. The FCA Board of Directors is exploring options for inexpensive space in Falls Church. If you know of space that might be available on a short-term, very low-cost basis, please contact Gina Caceci at gcgalmage@starpower.net.

Also benefiting from the fundraiser was Homestretch, Inc., a nonprofit organization in Falls Church that provides transitional services to homeless families. Homestretch will be receiving a donation of \$937 from FCA, 20 percent of the auction's proceeds.

Many people and organizations donated their energy, time, money, in-kind services, and merchandise to make this event a success. We particularly appreciate the generous support and donations of the following Falls Church businesses: Amasia Bistro, Art and Frame of Falls Church, Galleria Florist, Kendall's Bakery, La Côte d'Or, and Quinn's Auction Galleries.

"This first-ever fundraiser for Falls Church Arts was everything we planned it to be and turned out better than we expected!" said Gina Caceci, Executive Director of FCA. "All the hard work of the many volunteers was worth it because everyone at the event had such a great, fun time."

"Falls Church Arts is most grateful to Ruth Rodgers for generously and graciously opening her new home to us to raise funds for finding FCA a new home!"

Website Entries

Want to include your art event in "Art About Town" on FCA's website?

Want to put your bio and an example of your work on the web?

Email them to hsafford@comcast.net or submit to: Helene Safford, c/o Clay Cafe Studios, 101 N. Maple Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22046. Fax 703-534-7601.

Local Artists Donate to FCA's Benefit Auction and House Tour

Ten generous local artists donated works to FCA's "A Home for the Arts" Benefit Auction and House Tour. FCA thanks them again for their participation.

Watercolorist **Bill Abel's** recent move to Falls Church has presented him with fresh opportunities for his *plein aire* painting as well as for his portraits of people, homes, and pets. He has won several awards and had a number of solo exhibits. Mr. Abel teaches students of all ages.

Born in what is now St. Petersburg, Russia, **Regina Barker-Barzel** pursued a musical career and later a career in language instruction. In 1972, Regina gained her freedom when she defected from the Soviet Union, first to Austria



Regina Barker-Barzel explains her painting "Three Faces of the Sun" by saying, "Seeing what became of life in the hands of us human beings, the sun is stricken by grief."



Bill Abel's watercolor, "Winter Still," captures reflections of light on snow on the barn in Cherry Hill Park.

and later to Israel, where she began to paint. She has exhibited in Israel, Spain, Italy, and the United States. Barker-Barzel specializes in oil paintings. Her style depends on the subject matter; she favors expressionism, impressionism or surrealism. "I am always searching for interesting characters or faces to paint," said Barker-Barzel. "I also enjoy painting landscapes and seascapes. My 'Mothers of Israel' series depicts mothers and children dealing with loss."

Jake McGuire's striking photos of American cities and landscapes appear in private collections, exhibitions, and offices. They have also been published in airline and travel magazines, in a series of coffee-table books, and on the cover of a special edition of *Life* magazine. He has won 11 awards for photography and photojournalism.

Ged McManus lives in Falls Church, where he paints, draws, and writes. A "self-taught propeller-head," he has enjoyed a successful

career in the information technology sector. He has exhibited kinetic sculptures in Avignon, France, and paintings and drawings in group shows in Los Angeles, Richmond, and Falls Church.

Lisa Neher has been painting professionally since 1999, when a studio came open at the



Ged McManus's untitled figure study in charcoal exemplifies how strongly the human figure can move us. "Art," said McManus, "is an act of will—receiving, responding, and creating, by virtue of that will, reality itself."

Jackson Art Center in Washington, D.C. Before turning to painting, she collaborated with J. Child to write a novel, *Beneath a Summer Moon*, published by Silhouette Romance in 1986. She has also translated two books from French into English that have been published by the University of Illinois Press.

Therese "Terri" Rea did undergraduate work in Decorative Arts at the University of California at Berkeley. She has studied art in the United States and in England. Her work has been exhibited at Small Works Shows, the Miniature Painters Society of Washington, D.C., and the Torpedo Factory. Terri works exclusively in watercolor.

Before pursuing her passion for mixed-media experimentation, **Anne Rechter** had long



For painter Lisa Neher, "Painting is life. Many things in life can be communicated using words, but there is a universe of living that cannot and will never be turned into words," as she reveals in "Through the Trees, Brightly."

Marc Robarge creates mixed-media sculptures by uniting a variety of found natural forms with hand-crafted organic shapes. His sculptures have been shown in Virginia, Maryland, Washington, D.C., and Indiana. He has participated in a number of artist-in-residence programs in Virginia's Schools. He lives and teaches in the City of Falls Church.

Cathy Summers has been an outdoor photographer for over 20 years. Her pictures have appeared in editorial and advertising pieces in various regional and national magazines. Recent local exhibits of her work have been held at First Horizon Bank and the gallery of Goodwin House West.

After a career as an engineer with the U.S. Navy, **Richard**

Wyvill retired to follow his passion, oil painting. He studied with Navy artist John Landry and has taken classes at the Torpedo Factory, Georgetown University, and the Smithsonian Institution. He has exhibited in juried shows at the Art League (Torpedo Factory), the Fredericksburg Center for the Creative Arts, and Del Ray Artisans.



Painter Anne Rechter poses with her oil painting, "Flower Piece #2."

and successful careers in yoga instruction, theatrical performing and dancing. She studied sculpture at the Corcoran College of Art and Design, followed by a number of painting classes in Rhode Island. Ms. Rechter became a full-time painter in the early nineties. She has exhibited widely in Virginia, Washington, D.C., and New York.



According to Richard Wyvill, "Learning to paint is learning to see. It is the ability to capture what is there for everyone to see but is usually missed which provides the visual 'punch' or impact that brings a picture to life." His painting "Some Time Ago" freezes a moment in time for us to contemplate.



FCA President Tom Gittins presents Executive Director Gina Caceci with a certificate of appreciation for her efforts to bring about "A Taste of Falls Church" Benefit House Tour and Art Auction.



The Falls Church Arts booth at "Taste of Falls Church" was manned by Shaun van Steyn, Gina Caceci, Marty Meserve and Edna Frady, and they receive a portion of the proceeds from the event.

Website

Keep up-to-date on arts happenings in Falls Church!
Visit our website at
www.FallsChurchArts.org



Silversmith Brian Dickson explained aspects of his work at Impulsive.

Painter and author Karen Korbin signed her book, "Touching the Wall: Entering the Stream," at Art & Frame.



Harpist Barbara Kruczewski donated her time to serenade at the benefit.



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Home



ed by (from left to right) Tom Gittins, among others. The association will

FALLS CHURCH arts doings



Happy faces characterized the guests at the benefit house tour/auction. Dominique van Steyn, Virginia Levy, and Beth Curry (from left to right) enjoyed the event.

Keep Us Informed!

Got news? Want to help an up-and-coming Falls Church artist or performer? Make sure Falls Church Arts (FCA) knows what's happening by sending announcements of upcoming performances, shows, or awards. Listing your talents and showing your works online is an easy way to expand your audience. Consider participating in FCA's directory of artists. Just send us a short biography and digital photos.

FCA web contact: hsafford@comcast.net or Helene Safford, c/o Clay Café Studios, 101 N. Maple Ave., Falls Church, VA 22046. Does FCA have your email? Are you missing mailings? Make sure we have your current member information. Update your address, phone, areas of interest, or email by contacting Marty Behr at behr_marty@yahoo.com.

PTA Reflections Art Program

Some wonderful artworks produced by Falls Church students will be exhibited as part of the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Reflections Art Program. Students from Mt. Daniel and Thomas Jefferson Elementary Schools, and Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School are all participating in this national Arts in Education program.

Focusing on four categories, visual arts, literature, photography and music, Reflections exhibitions start on the local level with entries in local schools. This year's theme is "I Wonder Why..." It is for students in pre-kindergarten through twelfth grades.

The entries will be displayed at the schools during the week of November 14. Judges will select up to three entries in each category to advance to the next level.

To learn more about the program, visit www.fallschurchpta.org. To view clips of some of the art that received national recognition last year, visit www.PTA.org.

Meet Falls Church Sculptors

Marc Robarge is a Falls Church resident, teaches in Falls Church schools, and has shown work at FCA events. He is one of 20 artists included in OPTIONS 2005 in Washington, D.C., which runs through November 27 and is located at 3307 M St., N.W. Marc's e-mail: robarge@starpower.net.

Carol Shireena Sakai works in sculpture and paint, teaches yoga and t'ai chi, and lives in the Falls Church/McLean area. This past summer she participated in the Loveland Invitation Sculpture Show & Sale—the largest outdoor sculpture show in the world. She also shows work at Impulsive. Carol's website, <http://www.carolsakai.com/> and e-mail, Info@carolsakai.com.

Julie Singer, a Falls Church massage thera-

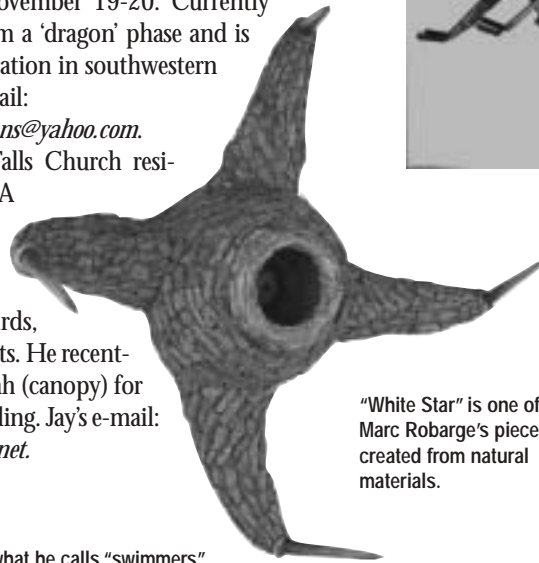
pist and FCA member, creates relief and embossed clay tiles. She is showing at the Fairfax Holiday Show, November 19-20. Currently she's emerging from a 'dragon' phase and is now finding inspiration in southwestern themes. Julie's e-mail:

wackyfaceproductions@yahoo.com.

Jay Grusin, Falls Church resident and FCA member, welds found metal objects into yard sculptures of birds, insects, and abstracts. He recently created a chuppah (canopy) for his daughter's wedding. Jay's e-mail: grusins@starpower.net.



Jay Grusin's lawn sculpture "Cicadian" was created from found metal objects and lawn mower parts.



"White Star" is one of Marc Robarge's pieces created from natural materials.

Sculptor Marc Robarge used wood, plaster, bark, stain and roof cement to create what he calls "swimmers"



Sculptors on Sculpture

Favorite D.C. sculptures:

"At the Hub of Things" by Anish Kapoor, Hirshhorn.
 "Roof" by Andy Goldsworthy, National Gallery of Art East Building lobby. (Marc's picks)
 "Standing Cardinal" by Giacomo Manzu, Hirshhorn Sculpture Garden. (Klara's pick)

Marc's and Klara's Favorite Contemporary Sculptor: Martin Puryear

Editor's note: Martin Puryear was born in Washington, D.C., in 1941 and earned his B.A. from Catholic University. Look for "Lever No. 3," @ National Gallery of Art East Building and "Timber's Turn," @ Hirshhorn.

Advice to Sculptors:

"Do something else. (Just kidding.)" –Klara Sever

Sculpture-inspiring activities:

"Every new piece is hidden in an old one." –Klara Sever

"Daily meditation and yoga stretches help clear my head." –Marc Robarge

"I look through books until I find an interesting design or line, start drawing it, and then move to clay."

–Julie Singer

"When I take apart an old push lawnmower, the challenge is to make it whole again but different." –Jay Grusin

Help Falls Church Arts Grow and Prosper:

Renew Your Annual Membership or Become a Member Now!

Become a Friend of Falls Church Arts!! FCA needs your financial contribution to support its efforts to promote the arts. Remember, your donations are tax deductible.

You can become a sponsor of FCA by donating at a number of levels from \$100 to \$2,500. Individual memberships are \$35. Household memberships are \$50. Students and seniors can join for \$25.

Please make checks payable to: Falls Church Arts, c/o M. Behr, Treasurer, 412 North Cherry Street, Falls Church, Virginia 22046 (see form on page 2).

Thank you for your support!

Do you make sculpture and live or work in the Falls Church area? We contacted some area sculptors, but if we missed you, send a short bio to Helene Safford hsafford@comcast.net, and we'll add your information to the FCA website.

Open Studios at the Jackson Art Center

Lisa Neher, an FCA painter, invites all art lovers, near and far, to come to Jackson Art Center (JAC)'s Last Open Studios of 2005 on Sunday, December 4, at 3048 1/2 R Street (in Georgetown, On R, between 30th and 31st Streets, N.W.)

Over 25 artists will have their studios open to welcome visitors, sell their original art, and generally enjoy showing their works to art lovers of all ages. From 12 noon until 5 pm, there will be good food provided by Whole Foods, coffee from Starbucks and decorations from The Party Store.

Come say hello in Studio 18b (second floor), and check out many new paintings, along with perhaps a few old favorites.

Learn about Sculpture By Looking at It!

Galleries is published monthly and lists local DC/MD/VA shows. Pick up printed copies at local galleries or check www.artlineplus.com/gallerymagazine/.

Send announcements to: 6504 Allegheny Ave, Takoma Park, MD 20912.

Phone: 301 270-0180.

E-mail: galleriesmag@hotmail.com

Sculpture Magazine is a monthly magazine devoted to contemporary sculpture published by International Sculpture Center

www.sculpture.org. Local editorial office:

1529 18th St., N.W.,

Washington, D.C. 20036. 202-234-0555.

Email: isc@sculpture.org.

Other e-listings of local art:

artdc.org

www.dcist.com

Sculpture Shows:

Artist-made Furniture: Familiar Forms Personal Interpretation. Twelve DC area artists. Through Dec. 13. Eleven Eleven

Sculpture Space, 1111 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W. 703-790-9018. Weekdays only.

E-mail: binniefry@aol.com.

Seeds: Gail Gorlitz and Karin Birch.

December 6–January 14. Emerson Gallery, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean, VA. 703-790-1953.

E-Mail: mpaart@aol.com.

Sculpture Unbound (Works by WPA\C & Washington Sculptors Group), juried by Glenn Harper, editor of *Sculpture*. January 9–April 6. Edison Place, 701 8th Street, NW. Washington, D.C.

FCA Announcements:

Music as Focus of Next Scene

The next *FCA Scene* will focus on local music and musicians. If you would like to suggest a feature story, submit an announcement of an upcoming concert, or be part of a directory of local musicians, please email: grusins@starpower.net or cheryl.miller32@verizon.net.

General Membership Meeting

Watch your e-mail for the exact date for Falls Church Arts (FCA)'s Annual Membership Meeting, which will be held in February. Don't miss this opportunity to influence the future direction of this dynamic art organization!!

Through a Lens Widely

See the world through the eyes of four different photographers. As part of Falls Church Arts' Gallery Without Walls program, local businesses are exhibiting beautiful and varied artwork.

At The Broad Street Grill, check out the "Spring, Summer & Sports" display of Bob Morrison's images. While you conduct your financial transactions, you can enjoy Cathy Summers' outdoor photography at Burke & Herbert Bank & Trust Company and explore hard-to-reach locales by viewing Colby Loucks' photos at First Horizon Bank. Fusion is the theme for the delicious food served at Amasia Bistro and for the art on the walls, too! Jim Dieter fuses photographic images on canvas to create a unique effect. And the works of several different painters are on display near the bar at Ireland's Four Provinces Restaurant.

All art will be on exhibit through January.

If you are interested in exhibiting your work through the Gallery Without Walls program, or know of a business establishment in the Falls Church area that might be interested in participating in the Gallery Without Walls program, please contact Eileen Levy at eastender22046@aol.com or Gina Caceci at gcgtalmage@starpower.net.

Recommended

Resources:

Plaza Artist Materials. 3045 Nutley St. (Pan Am Shopping Center) Fairfax, VA. 703-280-4500. Good range of supplies and has a discount card program.

Woodcraft Supply. 6123 Backlick Rd., Springfield, VA. 703-912-6727.

The Washington Sculptors Group, P.O. Box 42534, Washington, DC 20015. Phone: 202-686-8696.

Fax: 202-364-1053. Web: washingtonsculptors.org. This group organizes shows and provides resources to sculptors.

Washington Project for the Arts/Corcoran publishes a directory of established and emerging contemporary artists throughout the Washington region which is distributed to galleries, curators, patrons, art critics and press. They also sponsor shows and educational programs for artists. 500 17th St., NW. 202-639-1828.

www.wpaonline.org

Sculpture Class:

If you want to know more about sculpture, consider a class from local sculptor. **Bob Moore**, FCA member who lives in Sleepy Hollow area, teaches clay sculpture to kids at his home studio after school. He also gives introductory classes to adults. "I get a kick out of showing people they can do art when they think they can't." Bob works in clay and took up clay sculpture when he retired ten years ago. To find out about his classes, try bobmarthamoore@earthlink.net or 703-534-1029.



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Klara Sever (Continued from page 1)

Klara worked as a sculptor and restorer on some of Czechoslovakia's most beautiful baroque castles. She designed new architectural sculpture for the interior of the National Theater. Her bronze relief of one of the founders of the Czech Republic hangs in the American Embassy in Prague.

"Since immigrating to the United States," DuPlain said, "Sever has dedicated all her time to sculpting." She has exhibited in Washington at the Marlboro Gallery, the Art Barn, the Gallery House and the George Meany Center. In New York, she exhibited with the Jack Gallery in Soho, Best of Woman art and art juried shows at Pen & Brush.

Sever's originals and reproductions can be found in numerous private collections in Europe and the United States. DuPlain said that Sever "hasn't shied away from interpreting popular culture. Among her pieces you'll find commissioned busts of the late, great American comedian Bob Hope and Washington Redskins Coach Joe Gibbs, both examples of American icons in their field."

Her latest works include a relief for the U.S. Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C., showing a chaplain giving a sermon on a ship's deck. She is currently working on a sculpture for the Embassy of Kazakhstan.

DuPlain mentioned "Sever's amazing gen-

erosity" to other artists and organizations promoting the arts. "She is always giving of herself to others." Sever was instrumental in bringing an internationally known mime, Milan Sladek, to the U.S. to perform at Gallaudet College.

Sever finds working with her hands extremely satisfying. "My fondest ambition," she says, "is to be able to continue sculpting for a long, long time."

Eighteen of Sever's sculptures were displayed at the reception. To learn more about Klara Sever and her large body of work, see her website at www.klaraseversculptor.com. To learn more about Empowered Women International, visit their website at www.ewint.org.

This grouping of sculptures highlights the diversity of Klara Sever's work.



Artists Group Shares Marketing Ideas

What motivates people to buy art? How do you get and build an audience for your work? How does an art consignment gallery operate?

These questions were debated during the monthly "Gathering of Artists" held at Klara Sever's house on October 17. Participants felt that a database of donors and those who had purchased art from Falls Church Arts (FCA) would be useful. It was also suggested that FCA contact Pearson Square builders/designers to involve FCA artists in providing art for the new complex.

Each month FCA members interested in networking meet at Klara's house. Both artists and art supporters are encouraged to attend. The next meeting will be on Monday, November 7 at 7:30 p.m. The theme will be "Identifying and Cultivating an Audience." If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Klara at klarasever@aol.com.