Presidents Report 2023

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Dear MAG Members,

As we reflect back and try to forecast the future, we feel blest to have kept MAG viable and operating. We faced many challenges the past few years. Moving into and setting up a new space for our 70 year old non- profit was a huge undertaking. We landed on our feet and now are working to build our membership and become financially secure. After 2 years in this present space we will sign a new lease for another 1-2 years.

As we look back we have accomplished a great deal in 2022-23.

**Member shows (7)** included Dimensions, In Full Color, Member’s Invitational, Paper Play, Summer Days, Member Awards Show, and the Holiday Gift of Art and Boutique

**Solo shows** **(5)** included Don Sexton, Fabian Wes Fleurant, Mark Swartz, Suzanne Montresor, Helen Schiliro and Virginia Zelman, Sherri Paul and Sheila Fane.

Solo shows are booked for 2024. Members can sign up on the waiting list for 2025.

Our annual **Open Juried Small Works Show** was very successful and well received by the community. Our juror was Randy Williams. 58 people accepted; 70 pieces accepted

**Student Show-** Artists on the Rise, honoring past member, Laura Heiss. A large turnout of students, teachers, parents, and the community attended this annual event.

**Out of Gallery-** We enjoyed the opportunity to exhibit member works at the Bronxville Women’s Club, Of Time and Place, and hope to have other out of gallery opportunities to offer next year.

**Workshops (6)** We have reinstituted our Jump Start Your Art professional development program with the Zoom demo/lecture Frottage with Chris Shore, the Glass Birdbath workshop with Lori Pepe, the Golden Paints Zoom demo/lecture with Roy Kinzer. In person workshops included Photographing Your Art with Bruce Dunbar, The Portrait Drawing Party with Alison Nicholls, and the Jumpstart Your Creativity with Judith Weber. Additional workshops and programs are being considered for next year.

We have established **collaboration with the Rye Art Center** to hold some of our programs there in their larger spaces. This broadens our outreach to a new audience and gives us a wonderful, highly respected art enter to collaborate with.

We have expanded our **social media outreach.** Our Constant Contact numbers are up to 1,750 contacts, our Instagram page has 890 contacts and our Facebook pages (MAG page and MAG Group page) have a total of 1,000 contacts.

**Publicity**

MAG is a member of the Larchmont Chamber of Commerce and ArtsWestchester. We have received an annual Exhibition Grant from ArtsWestchester and promote programs and events on their Artist’s Opportunity site and calendar. Publicity is sent to our publicity partners each month and Constant Contact messages promote our programs, shows and events. Our website continues to be the main focus of the organization.

LMCTV videotaped 2 events at the gallery. The Student Show and the Gift of Art. These were put on their Youtube channel.

**Membership**

Over the past few years, our membership has declined. This is due to several factors: the pandemic, change of residence, older members stopped working, passed away or moved, and some members have moved on to other opportunities.

Present membership is 114. We continue to jury in new members on line, rather than in person. We have accepted 15 new members this fiscal year. Members are asked to do 10 hours of volunteer time during the year.

**70th Anniversary**

The Mamaroneck Artists Guild will be celebrating its 70th Anniversary this year. Plans are under way to hold an Anniversary Show and Fundraising Reception October 16 to November 9 at the Rye Art Center. Committees will be set up for volunteering in the next month.

***Hopes for the year ahead***

We are hopeful and thankful that our members and community continue to support the Guild through memberships, contributions and volunteer time.

We hope to build our financial base in order to secure a larger gallery space in the next few years.

We are hopeful that we can build our membership with strong, creative artists.

We are hopeful to offer varied, interesting exhibits and programs for our members and the community.

We are hopeful to have dedicated members willing to participate on the Board of Directors, attend receptions and events.