



(860) 434-7802 90 Lyme Street, Old Lyme CT 06371 [www.LymeArtAssociation.org](http://www.LymeArtAssociation.org)

**AGENDA**  
**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**Wednesday, October 8, 2025, 5:30 pm**

*Light refreshments will be served at 5:00 pm, prior to the meeting.*

*The mission of the Lyme Art Association is to promote and cultivate an appreciation for representational fine arts by holding art exhibitions, conducting educational programs for the benefit of its members and the greater community and by owning, maintaining, and preserving an historic building and galleries in Old Lyme, Connecticut.*

1. **Call to Order, President's Remarks** – Michael Centrella, President
2. **2024 Annual Meeting Minutes Review & Approval** - Michael Centrella, President
3. **Executive Director's Remarks** - Elsbeth Dowd, Executive Director
4. **Strategic Planning Report** – Beverly Schirmeier, Committee Member
5. **Treasurer's Report** – Katherine Simmons, Treasurer
6. **Investment Committee Report** - Steven Ross, Committee Chair
7. **Audit Committee Report** – Paul Sellier, Committee Chair
8. **Election of Directors** - Katherine Simmons, Nominating Committee Chair
9. **Election of Life Members** – Michael Centrella, President
10. **Artistic Policy & Exhibition Committee Report** - Beverly Schirmeier, Committee Chair
11. **Gallery Sales Report** - Paul Michael, Gallery Manager
12. **Education and Activities Report** - Lorraine Yurkewicz, Committee Member
13. **Buildings and Grounds Report** – Paul Michael, Gallery Manager
14. **Development Report** – Elsbeth Dowd, Executive Director
15. **Newsletter Report** - Katherine Simmons, Editor
16. **Other Business**
17. **Final Remarks, Thank You** - Elsbeth Dowd, Executive Director
18. **Adjournment of Meeting** – Michael Centrella, President



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## **Annual Membership Meeting Minutes**

**October 9, 2024**

**Members Present:** Linda Boisvert-DeStefanis, Susanna DalPonte, Rick Daskam, Donna Gilberto, Sunil Howlader, Sarah Stifler Lucas, Donna Martell, Jack Montmeat, Richard Nazzaro, Howard Park, Steven Ross, Matthew Schwager, Dennis Sirrine, and Len Swec

**Board Members Present:** Del-Bourree Bach, John Beatty, Michael Centrella, Maura Cochran, Debbi Goodman, Randie Kahrl, Paul Loescher, Jeanne O'Brien, Beverly Schirmeier, Paul Sellier, Katherine Simmons, and Lorraine Yurkewicz.

**Staff Present** Elsbeth Dowd, Paul Micheal, Ann Chan and Sara Drought Nebel.

**Call to Order:** Beverly Schirmeier, Board President, called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

**2023 Annual Meeting Minutes Review and Approval:** Beverly welcomed all in attendance and stated it has been her honor to serve as Board President these last two years. Beverly asked for any comments on the 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes. There were no comments or additions. Beverly asked for a motion to approve the 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes. Katherine Simmons made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Sarah Stifler Lucas seconded, all voted in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

**Executive Director's Report:** Executive Director, Elsbeth Dowd started by thanking everyone for coming. Elsbeth went over some of the new achievements from this year, the primary one being the CRM system, known as Neon One. Our mailing list continues to grow. There were 22 exhibits this year and a number of educational programs. Our finances are growing in the right direction, and we have a wonderful staff. More on all of these and other items in the reports that follow.

**Strategic Planning Report:** Maura Cochran, Committee Chair of the Strategic Planning committee, presented what the committee plans to concentrate on in the coming year. Maura said the Board plans to fine tune these four goals for the next year, Fundraising, Membership, Operations and Outreach. There aren't a lot of corporations to take care of all the area art organizations. We will be looking for businesses that have deeper pockets. Elsbeth has been doing a great job with outreach and she is going to continue to do that. The Board and volunteers will help make all these goals come to fruition.

**Treasurer's Report:** Paul Sellier, Treasurer went over the chart he included in the meeting handout. Revenue totals for fiscal year 2024 ending September 30, 2024 were \$551,000, which is an \$80,000 increase compared to 2023, very impressive. Revenues were up for virtually all categories this year except for grants, due to less funding by the State of Connecticut for cultural arts programs. Paul recapped the fundraisers for the year, Swing for Art, the Sea & Sky Soiree and the upcoming Palette to Palette. Entry fees were up by about \$13,000 and commissions were about \$8,000 higher than last year. Education was the biggest revenue generator this year at \$123,000, also higher than last year. Expenses totaled \$571,000. Expenses for operating the building were up by about \$12,000, much of that due to septic tank repairs. Payroll dominates the expenses. In recent years \$20,000 for payroll came from the Capital Campaign account. There was no Capital Campaign this year, so operations absorbed 100% of payroll expense. Annual insurance premiums now total close to \$45,000, which is almost double over the last year and they will continue to rise. In fiscal 2024 we incurred a loss of \$21,000, which is roughly the

amount that would typically be paid from the Capital Campaign account to payroll. We are planning the next phase of capital projects, most of which will make the building more user friendly and accessible. We are at full staff for the first time in a long time, and we have a leakproof and airtight building to last another 50 years at least. We ask you all to be as generous as possible with your support to LAA. At this point Beverly thanked Paul who is at the end of his term as Treasurer and asked for a round of applause for all Paul has done.

**Investment Committee Report:** Steven Ross recapped his written report included in the meeting packet. He reviewed the three investment accounts, Foster Caddell, Cooper Ferry and the Unrestricted account, which are managed by the Arch Group. We pay an advisory fee of 0.85%, which is less than the industry standard. The account total saw a 6.8% increase from the same date in 2023. The total return for the portfolio this year was 23.6%. There were no contributions to the portfolio this year because we are concentrating on capital improvement and in mid-October last year, we withdrew just over \$100,000 from the unrestricted account to pay for the skylight project as planned.

**Audit Committee Report:** John Beatty, Committee Chair presented a brief audit report, included in the meeting packet. This year's audit examined the new data entry system, or CRM, called NEON. John stated that the old Giftworks system was slow and did not do as much as NEON is able to do. The new system is QuickBooks integrated, and the cost is virtually the same as the old Giftworks system, after the initial set up cost. It is too soon to tell, but it looks like the new system should save 30-40 hours of employee time a month.

**Election of Directors:** Governance Committee Chair, Kathy Simmons started by recognizing the Board members who are not standing for election this year. They are Debbi Goodman, Margaret Jane DeRisio, Erin Schaaf, Katherine Simmons, and Beverly Schirmeier. Then Kathy introduced the 10 Board members who are standing for election or re-election. The members on the slate for election, Del-Bourree Bach, John Beatty, Michael Centrella, Maura Cochran, Randie Kahrl, Lois Lawrence, Paul Loescher, Jeanne O'Brien, Lorraine Yurkewicz and David Zuckerbraun. Sarah Stifler Lucas made a motion to approve the slate as presented, Steven Ross, seconded and all voted in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

**Artistic Policy and Exhibition Committee Report:** Beverly Schirmeier said the committee has been hard at work improving our policies and exhibitions. They work on getting all our wonderful jurors. Beverly has heard how the work has exploded this past year. Funding for awards has increased for some exhibitions, creating more award opportunities. Next year we will have a Diane Aeschilman legacy award as well. Next year we are planning on doing online submissions for our shows. Beverly thanked everyone who has served on the committee this year.

**Gallery Sales Report:** Paul Michael, Gallery Manager, went over the spreadsheet in the meeting packet. That spreadsheet shows that May was the best month in LAA history. The YTD sales figure is \$157,809 and we still have three months to go. Paul pointed out the list of exhibitions we have had and the ones coming up. Paul explained about the submission process and how it has become more and more busy which has led to the decision to proceed with digital entries in 2025, as many other organizations do already. Donna Martell asked if other people would be able to see the artists' shows. Paul stated that the staff is looking at places where we can list exhibitions, so yes, we are thinking about that. Elsbeth and Paul are still looking at different systems to use. Michael Centrella, noted that the average price per piece sold is \$789 compared to last year, when it was \$589. John Beatty stated that he thinks LAA is the best gallery in New England for art sales. Rick Navarro said he always thought this gallery was one of the best in the country. Beverly said that the Board, the committees and the staff have all been working very hard to make the gallery what it is today.

**Education and Activities Report:** Lorraine Yurkewicz, committee member gave a rundown of the list of events that took place this year, also in the meeting packet. Lorraine wanted to thank Sara Nebel, Jolie Collins and all the rest of the staff and volunteers that make all these events possible. Elsbeth commented that the programs we have here are all about bringing as many people as possible into this building and sharing our love of representational art. Thank you to the committee members and staff for all the work they've done. Beverly added that she thinks we have met one of the requirements in the Strategic Plan for bringing new people into LAA.

**Building & Grounds Report:** Paul Michael pointed out that the hillside has been cleared by volunteer Pete Lacey. Pete will continue to work with Suzanne Thompson to replant some native plants in those sections. Paul thanked all the volunteers who have helped in one way or another with the grounds this year. This year we had our septic chamber pump replaced. The Building and Grounds committee went through the building to look at short- and long-term projects. Pressure washing of the building will be taking place in the next few weeks and we will be getting rid of a few tree limbs in our parking lot area.

**Development Report:** Elsbeth Dowd, Executive Director, highlighted a few areas of support in her included report. Among them: the Kitchings Family Foundation Grant, the Town of Old Lyme and many of our usual grants, and some new donors for awards. Elsbeth recapped this year's special events, also listed in her report. The Annual Appeal will be going out in a few weeks and the January newsletter will have a full list of our donors who have given in any capacity in 2024. Elsbeth thanked all our volunteers and asked for a standing ovation for our outgoing Treasurer, Paul Sellier.

**Newsletter Report:** Kathy Simmons, the newsletter chairperson, encouraged anyone and everyone to consider writing an article for our newsletter. It can be on anything such as: contemporary artists, LAA founders, upcoming exhibitions, new paintings techniques, anything. So please think about contributing.

**Other Business:** There was none.

**Final Remarks and Thank You's:** Elsbeth stated that she is just so happy to be here and loves the flexibility and the staff she works with, including all the wonderful volunteers. She is looking forward to the coming year and thanks you for all your support. Michael Centrella asked for a standing ovation for Beverly Schirmeier our outgoing Board President. Beverly thanked everyone and asked for a motion to adjourn.

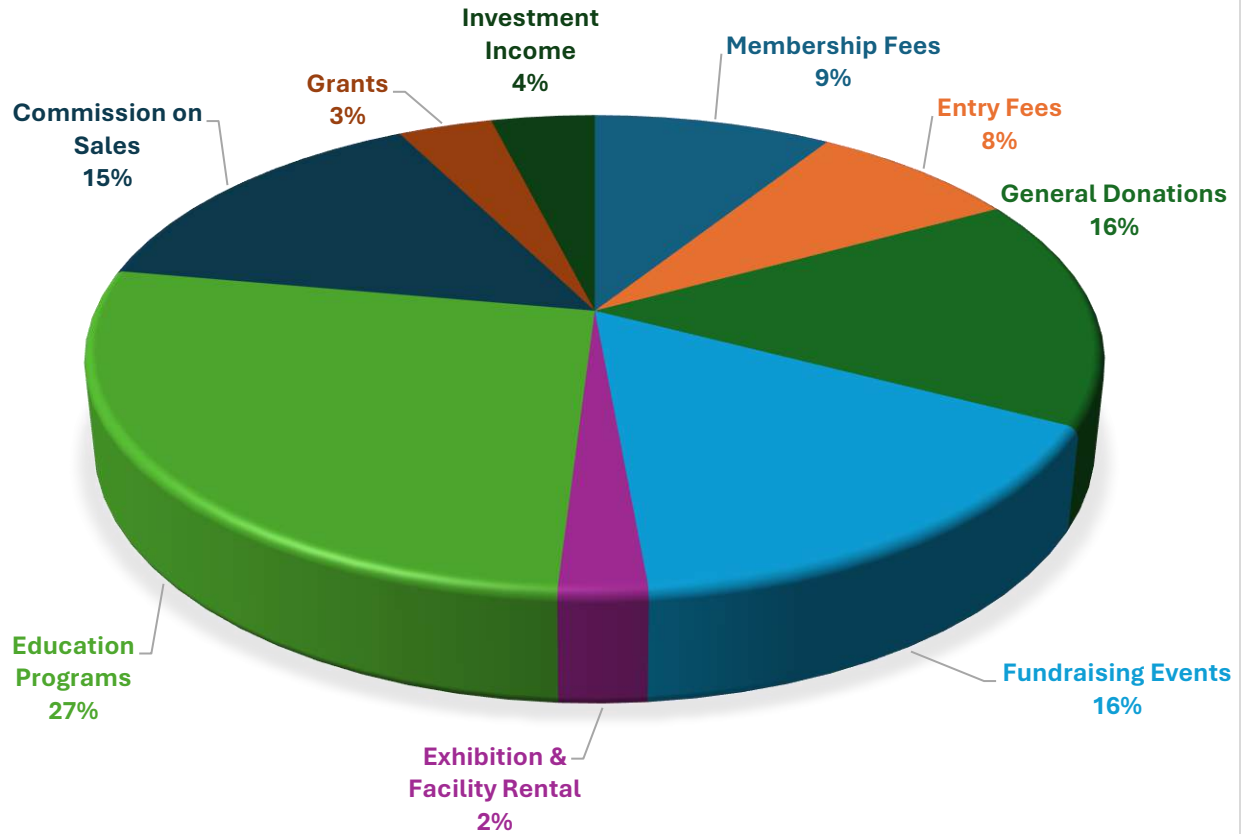
**Adjournment of Meeting:** Jeanne O'Brien made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Lorraine Yurkewicz seconded, all voted in favor. Motion to adjourn passed unanimously at 6:32 p.m.

**Lyme Art Association Strategic Planning Update  
October 2025**

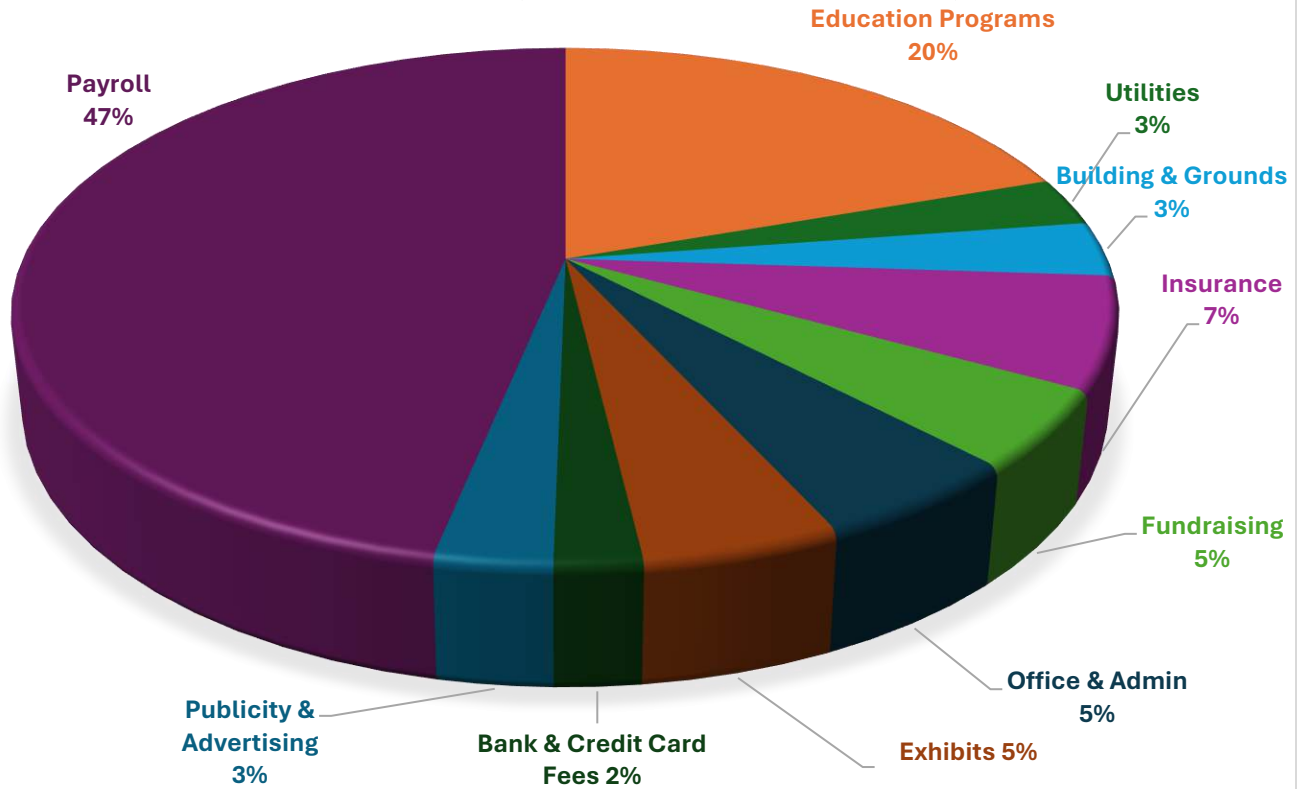
**Major goals for the coming year: EXPAND OUR BASE**

- **Fundraising:** Strengthen donor base; expand participation in planned giving program; cultivate relationships with high and mid-level donors and buyers; bring on new corporate partners
- **Membership:** Continue to improve membership benefits for artists; communicate benefits of membership (good sales with help of professional staff, opportunities for camaraderie)
- **Outreach:** Strengthen relationships with other organizations to encourage creative connections and increase the number of our member artists
- **Promotion:** Increase efficacy of social media advertising; evaluate other forms of print and online advertising; consider purpose and evaluate ROI for advertising (increase sales, exhibit entry, visitation, workshop enrollments) to determine best use of funds

**LYME ART ASSOCIATION**  
**OPERATING REVENUES \$635,071**  
**OCTOBER 1, 2024 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2025**



**LYME ART ASSOCIATION**  
**OPERATING EXPENSES \$616,159**  
**OCTOBER 1, 2024 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2025**



**Lyme Art Association  
Investment Committee Annual Report  
October 8, 2025**

Our investment portfolio is comprised of 3 accounts, Foster Caddell, Cooper Ferry and Unrestricted, which are managed by the Arch group at UBS. Their day-to-day management of the portfolios is guided by the LAA directives and Investment Policy Statement. The Arch Group reports to the Investment Committee quarterly. We pay an Advisory Fee 0.80% to UBS which is less than the industry standard of 1%.

The total value of the portfolio's three accounts as of September 30, 2025 was \$1,021,874. That total is a increase in value of \$77,898, 8.25%, from the \$943,975 balance on the same date in 2024. This is consistent with general market returns. The total return for the portfolio was 11.11% for the year vs. 10.87% for the benchmark Consolidated Blended Index.

Income was \$27,981.58 which is slightly more than anticipated. All income is distributed to LAA and used to fund operations and pay the advisory fee. No contributions were made to the portfolio as we continue to fund building renovation projects.

Investments are allocated 70% to equities and 30% to fixed income to conform to our Investment Policy Statement. Actual allocation as of 9/30/2025 was 73% equities, 27% fixed income. The allocation is reasonably close to the target allocation. The increased value of the equities chosen for our portfolio have resulted in the higher allocation .

The equities include several mutual funds and ETF (Exchange Traded Funds) that track certain sectors of the market domestically and internationally. Fixed income includes several mutual funds and some legacy bonds with high return but these will gradually mature and be replaced with bonds with the best yields at the time.

Last month the Federal Reserve started to lower its key Fed Funds rate. The markets have responded favorably to the rate cut. Technology stocks fueled by AI have had a major impact on equity market returns.

It was a very solid year for equity performance with most benchmark indices reaching new highs. Fixed income securities have benefitted from lower interest rates. Market participants remain confident about continued economic growth and strong corporate earnings going forward. This should continue to support the equity and fixed income markets.

We have reviewed the portfolio and confirmed that it is in compliance with our Investment Policy Statement.

This year the LAA investments were audited by the Audit Committee. They reviewed portfolio holdings on June 30, 2025, to ensure compliance with Investment Policy Statement. No exceptions noted. The Audit report includes more detail as to their process and there were no irregularities noted.

Respectfully submitted,  
Steven A. Ross (Chair), Michael Centrella, Paul Sellier & David Zuckerbraun



## **Lyme Art Association - 2025 Audit Investment Portfolio Process**

### **Overview:**

Invested assets consist of three discrete portfolios – Foster Caddell, Cooper Ferry, and Unrestricted Funds. The portfolios are managed in accordance with LAA's Investment Policy Statement, which was adopted on August 21, 2019, and updated on August 30, 2020. The three portfolios are managed under the same guidelines and objectives.

LAA's Investment Committee is responsible for overseeing and monitoring investment activity. The Committee reports quarterly to LAA's Board.

The Investment Committee retains UBS as its Investment Advisor for the day-to-day management of the portfolios. UBS also serves as custodian and is responsible for the safekeeping of investments.

The investment objective is to produce consistent portfolio growth over time and generate a reasonable level of investment income to help support operations.

The portfolio has a target allocation of 30% to fixed income and 70% to equities. The asset mix is managed to maintain a moderate risk portfolio in consideration of current and projected economic conditions.

Dividend and interest income is transferred monthly to LAA's operating account. Capital appreciation is retained by the portfolios in support of market value growth. Capital additions are based on specific donor directives and any excess funds from operations, as approved by the Board. Capital distributions are made in accordance with portfolio constraints and at the direction of the Board.

The Investment Committee meets quarterly to assess portfolio performance and ensure compliance with the Investment Policy Statement. The Committee will consider any changes recommended by the Advisor and implement such changes as deemed appropriate.

The Investment Committee reviews the Investment Policy annually to determine whether the stated investment objectives are still relevant and make changes as required. Any material changes to the Investment Policy Statement will be reported to the Board at the next scheduled Board meeting.

### **Audit Testing**

Reviewed portfolio holdings on June 30, 2025, to ensure compliance with Investment Policy Statement. No exceptions noted.

Reviewed asset allocation as reported by the Advisor and noted the asset mix was approximately equal to established targets.

Reviewed dividend and interest income reported by custodian and transferred to LAA's operating account. Reviewed internal recording and reporting process with Executive Director. Noted deposit amounts and proper recording of transactions.

Reviewed quarterly investment reports provided by the Advisor and found to be in order and complete.

Reviewed several fee payments made to the Advisor and agreed to fee schedule without exception.

Reviewed several quarterly reports prepared by the Investment Committee and submitted to the Board of Directors. Information was complete and in compliance with reporting requirements.

## **Conclusions**

LAA's investment portfolios are managed in a professional manner by a major investment advisory firm. The management fee negotiated by the Investment Committee is lower than most fees charged for a portfolio comparable in size.

Investment income was transferred to LAA's operating account in accordance with guidelines and properly recorded in LAA's accounting books.

The Investment Committee meets quarterly and reports its findings to the Board of Directors.

Investment holdings and asset allocation on September 30 were in compliance with LAA's Investment Policy Statement.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paul Sellier  
Chair, Investment Committee



Lyme Art Association, 90 Lyme Street, Old Lyme CT 06371

### **2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS SLATE**

#### **Nominated for Election for a two-year term 2025-2027**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Brief bio and current Committees/Offices served</b>
Debbi Goodman	Debbi is an Associate Artist who lives in East Haddam. She serves on APEC, chairs the Education and Activities Committee, and is co-chair of the Palate to Palette Committee. Debbi took on the task of making our entrance look beautiful in all seasons and does a wonderful job. (Third Term)
Brian McClear	Brian is an Elected Artist who lives in West Hartford. He serves on APEC and has been an active participant in LAA's activities, giving demonstrations and public talks. He spent over 25 years in the advertising world and now paints full time. (First Term)
Liane Philpotts	Liane is an Associate Artist who lives in Madison. She serves on the Sea & Sky Committee and the Development Committee. She is a physician. Liane was appointed to Board of Directors in May. (First Term)
Diana Rogers	Diana is an Associate Artist who lives in Clinton. She serves on the Education & Activities Committee and is an instructor at LAA. She is a former clinician and healthcare industry executive. (First Term)
Katherine Simmons	Katherine is an Elected Artist and retired Human Resources executive who lives in Glastonbury. She serves as Treasurer and chairs the Archive, Newsletter, and Governance/Nominating Committees and donates her graphic design services. Katherine served as President of the board from 2009 through October 2019. (Third Term)

#### **Directors currently serving on the Board of Directors**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Brief bio and current Committees/Offices served</b>
Del-Bourree Bach	Del is an Elected Artist and serves as Vice President and is on APEC and the Palate to Palette Committee. He is a professional artist who lives in Mystic, CT. (Second Term)
John Beatty	John is a Life Member of the LAA who served for many years as Treasurer and has chaired the Audit Committee. He lives in Old Lyme, CT (Second Term)
Michael Centrella	Michael is an Elected Artist who serves as President and is on the Governance Committee and Investment Committee. Prior to his art career, he was a Yale University professor who served on review boards, managed grant proposals, and wrote over 150 articles. Michael lives in Cheshire, CT. (Third Term)
Maura Cochran	Maura is an Associate Artist who lives in Essex, CT. She leads the LAA Members Plein Air Painting group and is chair of the Strategic Planning Committee. (Third Term)

Randie Kahrl	Randie is an Elected Artist who lives in Old Lyme. She is a licensed architect in Massachusetts who worked in residential design before retiring to Connecticut. She serves on the Education & Activities Committee. (Second term)
Lois Lawrence	Lois is an Associate Artist who serves on the Governance and Palate to Palette Committees. After many years practicing family law, she is now largely retired aside from consulting in her partner's cases. Lois lives in Stonington, CT. (First Term)
Paul Loesch	Paul is an Elected Artist who lives in Clinton. He is a retired architect who was Director of Facilities Planning for 25 years for Southern Connecticut State University. Paul is the chair of the Building Capital Projects Committee. (Second term)
Jeanne O'Brien	Jeanne is an Associate Artist who serves on the Development Committee and special events committees. She is a retired director of nursing and facility administrator and has pursued oil painting for many years. Jeanne lives in Deep River, CT. (First Term)
Lorraine Yurkewicz	Lorraine is an Associate Artist. She serves as Secretary and is on the Education and Activities Committee and special events committees at LAA. She retired from Pfizer as Director in Clinical Research and lives in Old Lyme. (Second term)
David Zuckerbraun	David is a community member who is Vice President and Trust Officer at Essex Savings Bank. He has also worked at the Washington Trust Company and before that was engaged in private legal practice. David has served on the boards of many nonprofits, currently serves on the Development and Investment Committees, co-chairs the Sea & Sky Soiree Committee and lives in Niantic. (Second term)

## Nominations for Life Membership

**Deborah Goodman's** constant presence at LAA brings joy to all our lives. Debby is an Associate Artist. She has served on the Board of Directors from 2013 to 2019 and again from 2020 through today. She co-chairs Palate to Palette, which is now celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> year, chairs the Education & Activities Committee, and serves on APEC and Sea & Sky Committee. Debby quietly works behind the scenes to accomplish so much at LAA, from beautifying our front entrance, to bringing in sponsors, to providing help just when we need it most. We are so grateful for Debby's cheerful disposition and commitment to LAA.

**Paul Sellier** has been devoted to LAA for many years. He served on the Board of Directors from 2017 to 2024. He has been Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and has served on the Development, Palate to Palette, Buildings & Grounds, Capital Project, and Finance Committees. He has spent countless hours improving LAA's financial health and has contributed tremendously to improving the efficiency and professionalism of our operations on every level. Paul has worked tirelessly to encourage staff members and volunteers alike to never stop striving for LAA to be its very best.

**Katherine Simmons** is a wealth of institutional knowledge about LAA. She is an Elected Artist and served as President of the Board for many years. She served on the Board of Directors from 2009 to 2019 and again from 2020 through today. Kathy was recently Secretary and is on the Archives Committee. She is our newsletter editor and writes many articles, as well. She has put a tremendous amount of time into helping with LAA's marketing and publicity, creating all our exhibition postcards and designing invitations for all our special events. Kathy's steadfastness and commitment to LAA has been an example to us all.

# **APEC Report**

The Artistic Policy and Exhibition Committee has remained focused on enhancing our exhibitions. This year marks the second year of expanded juried opportunities in the Mile Brook Gallery, offering more opportunities for artists to showcase their work. The committee has also secured additional funding, allowing us to increase the total number and amount of awards

## **2025 Jurors**

**Grace DeVito** - 1st Impressions

**Amaya Gurpide** - A Warm Glow

**Dmitri Wright** - Structural

**Andrea Lavery** - Spring Ahead

**Jeanne Ciravolo** - Abstracted

**Paul Beebe** - Weather or Not

**Sergio Roffo** - Ship to Shore

**Jenny Parsons** - Sunflower's Bloom

**Douglas Degges** - Expanding Visions

**TJ Cunningham** - 104th Elected Artist

**Tula Telfair** - Red Hot

**Stapleton Kearns** - New England Landscape

**Ephriam Rubenstein** - Inside Story (upcoming)

**Lisa Szaro** - Deck the Walls (upcoming)

# Gallery Report

## Gallery Sales

Sales this year reflect the strong support of LAA's community of collectors and patrons. In August, we set a new organizational record for the highest monthly sales, totaling \$37,545. By the end of September, 232 works had been sold, bringing year-to-date sales to \$161,000, surpassing the previous year's results. With the busiest season still underway, projections for the remainder of 2025 remain very promising. A detailed breakdown of sales can be found in the separate gallery sales report.

We have facilitated nineteen exhibitions so far this year.

1. First Impressions: Annual Associate Artist Show
2. Congratulations - Newly Elected Artist Exhibition
3. A Warm Glow (Mile Brook Exhibition)
4. Weather or Not
5. Abstracted
6. Spring Ahead
7. Structural
8. Jane Penfield Solo Exhibition (Mile Brook Exhibition)
9. Sunflower's Bloom
10. Ship to Shore
11. Expanding Visions
12. Red Hot
13. Hudson Valley Art Associations 92nd Annual Juried Exhibition
14. Wet - A World of Water (Mile Brook Gallery)
15. 104th Elected Artist Exhibition
16. New Haven Paint and Clay Club Select Member Exhibition (Mile Brook Gallery)
17. Timeless: American Artists Professional League
18. New England Landscape
19. Elected Artist Candidate Portfolios

Our upcoming exhibitions include the *LAA Plein Air Group Exhibition*, *Inside Story*, and *Deck the Walls*.

Our exhibitions wouldn't be possible without our staff and volunteers. Thank you to all who have contributed.

**Gross Sales  
Month**

Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Gross Sales
2013	\$3,975	\$250	\$4,076	\$15,585	\$9,635	\$5,050	\$8,578	\$9,215	\$13,635	\$4,640	\$17,538	\$11,311	\$103,487
2014	\$8,545	\$2,985	\$5,425	\$14,298	\$5,785	\$14,515	\$15,565	\$7,235	\$5,945	\$18,933	\$18,125	\$10,925	\$128,281
2015	\$7,115	\$3,225	\$3,285	\$3,075	\$3,610	\$18,999	\$27,379	\$12,098	\$2,770	\$12,155	\$5,525	\$23,698	\$122,933
2016	\$2,520	\$2,787	\$10,255	\$22,425	\$8,065	\$26,915	\$6,367	\$5,525	\$13,580	\$6,700	\$20,570	\$9,580	\$135,288
2017	\$10,290	\$2,545	\$10,037	\$6,520	\$9,195	\$17,127	\$13,150	\$8,054	\$21,955	\$11,775	\$18,685	\$10,040	\$139,372
2018	\$12,840	\$1,250	\$6,900	\$2,893	\$15,920	\$7,344	\$18,021	\$31,481	\$22,030	\$12,340	\$14,777	\$11,793	\$157,588
2019	\$8,080	\$10,468	\$9,017	\$10,175	\$13,801	\$11,547	\$24,352	\$5,961	\$6,193	\$18,082	\$5,065	\$29,498	\$152,237
2020	\$29,361	\$4,865	\$750	\$3,795	\$1,400	\$7,965	\$15,156	\$11,973	\$8,335	\$18,313	\$23,074	\$17,885	\$142,872
2021	\$14,131	\$8,031	\$3,443	\$7,439	\$27,193	\$25,643	\$18,441	\$20,948	\$11,788	\$21,350	\$21,250	\$27,740	\$207,397
2022	\$15,703	\$8,123	\$13,706	\$16,215	\$9,205	\$12,335	\$12,308	\$22,345	\$9,490	\$14,760	\$27,699.84	\$26,655	\$188,544
2023	\$13,858	\$15,178	\$9,569	\$10,632	\$19,198	\$25,084	\$20,269	\$6,785	\$4,475	\$15,539	\$12,812.00	\$23,694	\$177,092
2024	\$8,642	\$11,012	\$15,022	\$7,785	\$32,092	\$11,280	\$19,927	\$31,179	\$21,870	\$32,821	\$23,952.50	\$23,504	\$239,086
2025	\$6,707	\$7,865	\$12,966	\$8,880	\$24,116	\$9,638	\$24,205	\$37,545	\$29,078				\$161,000

**Total Pieces Sold  
Month**

Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total Pieces
2013	9	1	9	32	16	7	21	24	16	6	26	22	189
2014	17	7	20	14	11	16	36	16	7	27	19	20	210
2015	17	4	8	5	7	30	62	23	6	18	7	47	234
2016	7	8	17	17	6	29	17	12	13	7	28	16	177
2017	17	6	18	10	9	30	36	17	21	13	40	19	236
2018	15	2	18	5	24	12	37	38	7	14	26	25	223
2019	14	18	16	13	22	19	18	12	11	26	8	55	232
2020	34	6	2	3	3	9	13	11	8	33	41	43	206
2021	29	11	10	21	32	31	20	33	19	23	33	49	311
2022	25	20	24	26	16	18	18	23	19	26	43	40	298
2023	27	32	24	19	25	28	35	11	10	34	28	27	300
2024	16	19	25	17	27	20	25	34	18	32	27	35	295
2025	16	15	28	16	34	20	25	40	38				232

**Year-to-date Comparison**

Year	January	Jan. - Feb.	Jan. - March	Jan. - April	Jan. - May	Jan. - June	Jan. - July	Jan. - August	Jan. - Sept.	Jan. - Oct.	Jan. - Nov.	Jan. - Dec.	Yearly Sales
2013	\$3,975	\$4,225	\$8,301	\$ 23,886	\$33,521	\$38,571	\$47,149	\$56,364	\$69,999	\$74,639	\$92,176	\$103,487	\$103,487
2014	\$8,545	\$11,530	\$16,955	\$ 31,253	\$37,038	\$51,553	\$67,118	\$74,353	\$80,298	\$99,231	\$117,356	\$128,281	\$128,281
2015	\$7,115	\$10,340	\$13,625	\$ 16,700	\$20,310	\$39,309	\$66,687	\$78,785	\$81,555	\$93,710	\$99,235	\$122,933	\$122,933
2016	\$2,520	\$5,307	\$15,562	\$ 37,987	\$46,052	\$72,967	\$79,333	\$84,858	\$98,438	\$105,138	\$125,708	\$135,288	\$135,288
2017	\$10,290	\$12,835	\$22,872	\$ 29,392	\$38,587	\$55,714	\$68,864	\$76,917	\$98,872	\$110,647	\$129,332	\$139,372	\$139,372
2018	\$12,840	\$14,090	\$20,990	\$ 23,883	\$39,803	\$47,147	\$65,168	\$96,649	\$118,679	\$131,019	\$145,796	\$ 157,588	\$157,588
2019	\$8,080	\$18,548	\$27,564	\$ 37,739	\$51,540	\$63,086	\$87,438	\$93,399	\$99,592	\$117,674	\$122,739	\$152,237	\$152,237
2020	\$29,361	\$34,226	\$34,976	\$ 38,771	\$40,171	\$48,136	\$63,292	\$75,265	\$83,600	\$101,913	\$124,987	\$142,872	\$142,872
2021	\$14,131	\$22,162	\$25,605	\$ 33,044	\$60,237	\$85,880	\$104,321	\$125,269	\$137,057	\$158,407	\$179,657	\$207,397	\$ 207,397
2022	\$15,703	\$23,826	\$37,532	\$53,747	\$62,952	\$75,287	\$87,595	\$109,940	\$119,430	\$134,190	\$161,889	\$188,544	\$ 188,544
2023	\$13,858	\$29,036	\$38,605	\$49,236	\$68,434	\$93,518	\$113,787	\$120,572	\$125,047	\$140,586	\$153,398	\$177,092	\$177,092
2024	\$8,642	\$19,654	\$34,951	\$42,461	\$74,553	\$85,833	\$105,760	\$136,939	\$158,809	\$191,630	\$215,583	\$239,086	\$239,086
2025	\$6,707	\$14,572	\$27,538	\$36,418	\$60,534	\$70,172	\$94,377	\$131,922	\$161,000				\$161,000

# Education Report

At LAA, the studio and gallery are alive with creative spirit and community involvement. None of this would be possible without the dedication of Sara Drought Nebel, Jolie Collins, our hardworking staff, and the education committee, whose efforts make each program stand out. This year's weekend matinee series brought fresh energy with an exciting variety of demonstrations, lectures, and distinctive events, ensuring there's always something new to discover. Whether gathering for Paint the Town Plein Air or celebrating Members Day, we remain committed to offering experiences that bring our members together and deepen our connections with the wider community.

## Recent Workshops/Critiques/Demos

<b>TJ Cunningham</b>	The Oil Painter's Guide
<b>Hollis Dunlap</b>	Portrait/Figure Painting from Life
<b>Hollis Dunlap</b>	Critique
<b>Eileen Eder</b>	Plein Air Landscape Foundations
<b>Eileen Eder</b>	Critique
<b>Jaqueline Jones</b>	Painting the Connecticut Shore
<b>Caleb Stone</b>	Old Lyme Plein Air
<b>Diana Rogers</b>	Expressive Color in Pastels
<b>Lisa Miceli</b>	Expressive Flowers in Watercolor, The Sky is Made of Water
<b>Howard Park</b>	Palette Knife
<b>Catherine Puccio</b>	Pet Portraiture
<b>Brian McClear</b>	Demo
<b>Tatiana Yanovskaya-Sink</b>	Painting Flowers
<b>Betsy Barry</b>	Drawing Beach Treasures
<b>Caleb Stone</b>	Old Lyme Plein Air
<b>Mike Laiuppa</b>	Painting the Light, Captivating Portraiture
<b>Ed Lent</b>	The Poetry of Art, the Art of Poetry
(Upcoming) <b>Jessica Daigle</b>	Controlled Chaos, Ink to Watercolor, (demo) <b>Oct 11</b>
(Upcoming) <b>Kelli Folsom</b>	Floral Art (demo) <b>Oct 5</b>
(Upcoming) <b>Howard Park &amp; Lisa Miceli</b>	Speed Painting, <b>Oct 18</b>
(Upcoming) <b>Jessica Southwick</b>	Nature Journaling (demo), <b>Oct 19</b>
(Upcoming) <b>Mike Laiuppa</b>	Learning from the Masters, <b>Nov 1-2</b>
(Upcoming) <b>Kelli Folsom</b>	Bold Brushwork & Timeless Beauty, <b>Dec 6-7</b>
(Upcoming) <b>Bob Noreika</b>	Fearless Acrylics <b>Jan 17-18, 2026</b>



## Lectures

Roger Oat	Colonial Gravestones & the Stories They Tell
Bob Potter	Picasso
Bob Potter	Georgia O'Keeffe
Bob Potter	The Wyeths
Roger Clements	Faces of New London
Bob Potter	Winslow Homer
Todd Casey (upcoming, Oct 18)	The Art of Still Life, Art Talk and Book Signing
Todd Casey (upcoming, Nov 1)	Color Handbook, Art Talk & Book Signing

## Special Events

Sea & Sky Soiree  
Members Day  
Photographing Your Artwork Panel Discussion  
Family Day  
Paint the Town Plein Air Event  
Midsummer Festival  
(Upcoming) Palate to Palette, Oct 16  
(Upcoming) Pumpkin Day, Oct 25

## Special Programming

Represent! Family Program  
Natural Science Illustration Courses - Online

## Ongoing Monitored Classes & Painting Groups

Art Is- Short Pose	-	Thursday Mornings with Joanne Ballinger
Long Pose Figure	-	Friday Mornings with Petrice Petricone
LAA Plein Air Group	-	Mondays with Maura Cochran
LAA Plein Air Open Sessions	-	Periodically on Saturdays, open to all.

## LAA Class Instructors/Monitors

Jack Montmeat	Maura Cochran
Lisa Miceli	Christopher Zhang
Howard Park	Dino Pulerà (online)
Jeanne Carol Potter	Jessica Southwick (online)
Eileen Eder	Hannah Cohen (online)
Diana Rogers	Hannah Cohen (online)
Nancy Gladwell	Natalie Stojanovic (online)
Allison Ritrovato	Kate Samworth (online)
Betsy Barry	Jessica Daigle (online)
Catherine Puccio	Zilla Smith (online)
Patrice Petricone	Jessica Daigle (online)
Joann Ballinger	Aluse Ochniak (online)

# Building and Grounds Report

This year has been a steady and productive one for maintaining and caring for the Lyme Art Association's facilities. Thanks to the combined efforts of staff and volunteers, our grounds and building continue to remain in excellent condition for all to enjoy.

A special thank you goes to Peter Lacey for his ongoing care of the hillside and for clearing brush near the parking lot, as well as to Bob Potter, who generously directed proceeds from his lectures toward landscape maintenance. We are equally grateful to everyone who participated in clean-up days throughout the year, your hard work has kept our property looking welcoming and well cared for.

Finally, we extend our heartfelt thanks to Debbi Goodman, whose continual attention to the flowers at our front entrance ensures that LAA greets visitors with beauty and warmth throughout the year. Her dedication brings an inviting touch to our space.

## Highlights of the Year

- The Summer Challenge enabled us to regravel the driveway.
- Tree branch removal is underway.
- Hillside maintenance continues with the help of volunteer Pete Lacey.
- Volunteers from Pfizer will soon add new plantings and bulbs.
- Many volunteers contributed during clean-up days, thank you!

Your continued support and dedication truly make a difference in keeping the Lyme Art Association a beautiful and functional space.

## **Lyme Art Association Development Report for the 2025 Annual Meeting**

### **Grants Awarded**

- Town of Old Lyme. \$9,000 unrestricted
- Kitchings Family Foundation, \$10,000 for operations
- Herb Chambers Foundation, \$10,000 for accessibility study
- Chelsea Groton Foundation, \$1,000 for family programs
- Eastern Regional Tourism District, \$2,000 marketing grant for the Old Lyme Arts District
- Connecticut Office of the Arts, Connecticut Arts Endowment. \$1,787 unrestricted
- Connecticut Office of the Arts, Supporting Arts Grant, \$4,389 awarded Dec 2024. *Grant award announcement for 2025 pending*

### **Exhibition Sponsorships**

- Thank you to Ascend Bank in partnership with the Community Foundation of Middlesex County and Chelsea Groton Bank for sponsoring our 2025 exhibitions.
- Thank you to award sponsors, especially the anonymous donor of the Alden Bryan Award for Traditional Landscape Painting in Oil, the anonymous donor providing awards for our merit winners, and donors for the Diane Aeschliman Memorial award

### **Special Events**

- Many thanks to Debbi Goodman, Kim Sapia, and their committee for organizing this year's event, taking place next Thursday, October 16th! A huge thank you to our artists for their beautiful contributions and to all our sponsors, donors, and volunteers
- Many thanks to Sarah Stifler Lucas, David Zuckerbraun, and their committee for organizing last spring's Sea & Sky Soiree, entering its third year in 2026!

### **A Better Approach Summer Challenge**

- A tremendous thank you to everyone who helped make the Summer Challenge, "A Better Approach", such a success. Thanks to you, the visitor experience at LAA is much improved. The final work for the project is taking place this week.

### **Accessibility Study**

- We are currently working with Point One Architects on a study of accessibility needs at LAA. This study was generously funded by the Cooper Family, the Herb Chambers Foundation, and other donors. We anticipate receiving the study and deciding on an appropriate course of action later this year in order to make LAA an accessible and welcoming space for all of our visitors, artists, and volunteers.

***Thank you to all our donors, collectors, partners, and volunteers for all that you do for the Lyme Art Association! Your support makes us who we are: a thriving fine arts community, powered by the creativity and excellence of our members, working together for the love of art.***