



(FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) HIDDEN MEANING BY ANDREA CYBYK, FOR THE LOVE OF GAME BY PRESTON SAMPSON AND 3 AM BY JEFFREY KIM

What's in a Name? The Rise of an Underground Art Form

New Brow, Pop Surreal, or Lowbrow, the greatest challenge in writing about this unofficially named art aesthetic is figuring out what to call it. "Lowbrow," the default term and maybe actually the term that will end up sticking, doesn't seem to leave a good taste in the mouths of artists and art critics alike. Semantics aside, lowbrow is essentially everything that highbrow is not. In terms of my writing here, I will admit that lowbrow art defines art that is not usually acknowledged by the status quo, and being a lowbrow artist myself with lowbrow art friends, I can also say there seems to be no all-encompassing term to fit what we do, but that's what keeps it so vibrantly alive.

Lowbrow art can be described as an underground visual art movement that arose in the Los Angeles, CA, area in

By **Debra Yarrington**



WYGER (Orange Edition) by Sam Flores and Upper Playground

the late 1970s. In fact, in an article in the February 2006 issue of his magazine *Juxtapoz*, Robert Williams took credit for originating the term. He stated that in 1979 Gilbert Shelton, the publisher of *Rip-Off Press*, decided to produce a book featuring Williams'

paintings. Williams said he decided to give the book the self-deprecating title, "The Lowbrow Art of Robt. Williams," since no authorized art institution would recognize his type of art. He said the name stuck, even though he feels it is inappropriate. Williams refers to the movement as "cartoon-tainted abstract surrealism."

The truth of the matter is that lowbrow artists stem from the craftsmanship-based realm of representational art, and gain their source material and inspiration from some of the most illustrious, colorful, and controversial influences and graphic traditions. We spawn from beach bum and skateboard graphics, psychedelic and punk rock art, hot rod and biker art, graffiti art, tattoo art, pin-up art, movie poster
see **LOWBROW** on page 3

Phase II Construction Begins at the Workhouse Arts Center!

By **Mike Kappel and Allen Pryor**

The Workhouse Arts Center has launched Phase II construction operations with ambitious and innovative designs for several new facilities. Among the buildings in this phase will be a Kid Zone, a Premiere Theater and an Event Center. Each new concept will tout creative flair and design excellence provided by award-winning architecture firm, OTJ Architects. The architectural team has worked tirelessly to

provide style and function to the vision of the Lorton Arts Foundation (LAF) team of artists and executives. Operational support from general contractor, Foulger-Pratt, has been instrumental to the delivery of concise analysis and practical overview. Working in synergy with the LAF Construction Team, both entities have contributed significant resources in the development of these exciting new spaces. Once complete, these buildings will enable the Workhouse to further its mission in support

of the ever expanding arts community in Virginia.

Since the Workhouse is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, this historic, monumental renovation and adaptive reuse program has an extraordinarily intricate path to completion. Due to the size and nature of this project, it is arguably the largest of its kind underway in the United States. The unique challenge of integrating modern technology while maintaining the rich historical nature of the Workhouse, has been met with careful observance, planning, and guidance from the experienced leadership of LAF.

see **PHASE II** on page 9

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about the Workhouse via e-mail? Send your
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WORDS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"No matter what your reaction, we welcome your voice to our on-going and lively dialogue."

Spring 2010: Youth at the Workhouse



Sharon Mason

Every image is a combination of two basic ingredients: color and line. When you add light, the appearance of a third dimension is introduced and there is shape. Telling one's story through the language of color, line and light, is magical! It can inspire or incite others to take action.

I am reminded of the old saying, she's "wearing her heart on her sleeve." An artist, more than any other professional, is always on view. Whether exhibiting artwork, singing, performing, playing a musical instrument, reading one's poetry, directing a play or publishing a memoir, the adoring public offers their opinion through applause, money and celebrity. Training in the arts is at its best when it provides a forum where critique is offered amongst peers who are actively participating in the process. Their works are also on view and, therefore, open for discussion and criticism. It can be a lively experience.

At the Workhouse Arts Center, the yearly calendar provides a framework for us to tell our story. Our exhibitions, performances and events provide the public an opportunity to express their opinion through active participation. Each January, New Works: Faculty/Student/Staff Exhibition offers a glimpse into our community by highlighting the talent and skill of those who teach, work and study at the Workhouse.

This past January, our youngest artist was four years old. Her work was complimented by the work of the professional artist who exhibited his work right alongside. We have created an environment where the arts thrive through the creative storytelling of every member of our community, from the youngest to the oldest, from the most skilled to the most talented, from the emerging artist to the well-established professional artist.

Some work from the hands of children is sublime. First images might be colorful drawings of mom, dad and baby brother, while the teenager might present a view of isolation and pain, as in a pencil drawing recently exhibited by West Springfield High student, JinSil Park, entitled A Very Bad Day. Everyone who saw that piece identified with it. Each story is of equal importance because it represents one view of the whole human journey.

The Insider is filled with information about exhibits, events and performances for the next quarter. We have an exciting schedule with several exhibitions by children and young people including the 11th Congressional District Children's Exhibition sponsored by our Congressman Gerry Connolly.

—Sharon Mason



Registration & Information for all Summer Camps:
Caren Hearne
703-584-2961
WorkhouseArts.org
all camps meet at:
Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Rd. Lorton, VA 22079

ArtStar Performance Workshop
(ages 15-18, audition only)
Full day two-week camp begins: July 19

ArtStar Theatre Camp
(ages 8-15, in three age groups)
Full day three-week camp begins:
June 28

Visual Arts Explorers Camp
(ages 6-15, in three age groups)
Full day two-week sessions begin:
June 28, July 12, & July 26
Ask about 1/2 day option for younger students

Summer 2010

Spring Brings a Variety of Bright and Exciting Events to the Workhouse

Did you know that after Workhouse gallery hours, the arts truly come alive? (and they sing and dance, too!) Join the Workhouse Arts Center for our series of performing arts offerings in the intimate setting of Gallery W-16 and al fresco on the Quad!

The **ArtNotes** series often features concerts and performers that complement the main gallery exhibition. May brings a concert by "Encore Senior Chorale." The group will perform a variety of choral music that they have been rehearsing right here at the Workhouse! Then, classical pianist, "Lynne Mackey," performs from her imaginative solo repertoire in June.



Encore Senior Chorale performing at the Kennedy Center. They will perform at the Workhouse on Saturday, May 1.

Gallery After Hours features musicians from every genre, and this quarter is no exception! This April the Workhouse will host the brother-and-sister "Goldenberg Duo" in a piano-and-violin concert. In May, the cutting edge pairing of "Solar Powered Sun Destroyer" and "Last Days of Empire" will round out the spring!

The Workhouse Film Institute has much in store for cinemaphiles! Independent filmmaker Lonnie Martin will be on-hand in April to speak about his latest opus, *Women's Studies*, which plays to the horror and thriller genres. Then, to complement the *Urban Decay* exhibition, the award-winning documentary, *New Brow: Contemporary Underground Art* will screen April 30. In May, the screening of *Before Sunrise* will be accompanied by a guest lecture from independent film critic, Ryan

Dean. The Cinematic Tourist series makes a stop in Hawaii from June 11 through June 13, with a weekend-long festival of food, music, dance, live performances, culture and history along with films from and about the islands!

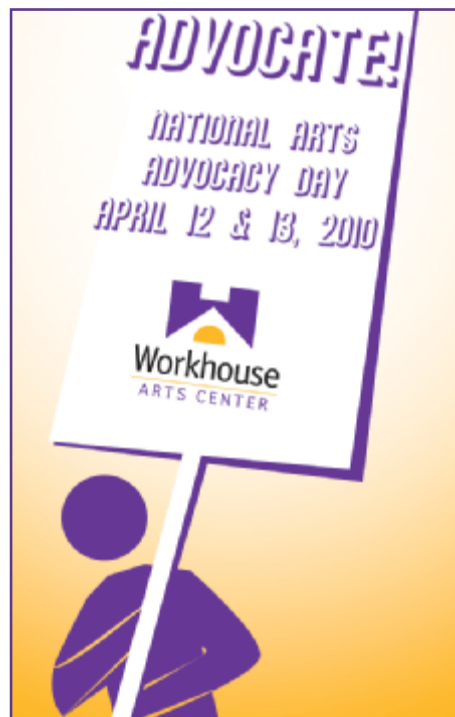
The slate of performers for the **Stars on Sunday** series is still shaping up at press time, but watch for big announcements on our website in the next few weeks! We can tell you that "The Osedax" will perform in May. The group combines elements of classic Southern Rock with the volume and power of modern progressive metal to bring a sound that is familiar in its melodies while new and inspiring in its aggression.

Make plans to visit the Workhouse and let us help you *ESCAPE* from the everyday! Be sure to check the Workhouse website for the most current information on the many unique and entertaining events that we offer!

LOWBROW, from page 1

art, motion picture production and effects, science fiction, comic book art, story illustration, animation, toy design and a myriad of other art forms. Our numbers are in the thousands and enough of us exist to justify many periodicals and even a full blown, award-winning, documentary: *New Brow: Contemporary Underground Art* as of 2009.

Still curious as to what constitutes Lowbrow? The Workhouse Arts Center is proud to announce its first Lowbrow art exhibition entitled *Urban Decay: A Carnival of Custom Vinyl and Lowbrow Art* all of which will be on display to the public April 28–May 9 in Gallery W-16, with an opening reception and a chance to meet the artists on May 1 from 7pm–12am. See you there!



Workhouse Film Institute Cinematic Tourist: Destination Hawaii!

Friday-Sunday, June 11-13

Aloha! Bring your friends and family to a weekend-long cultural celebration of Hawaii, to celebrate Kamehameha Day! Anchored by films showcasing the history and traditions of the islands, this festival will include authentic food, music, dance, art and much, much more!

Friday evening will begin with a welcome reception, traditional torch lighting and a film screening. Saturday afternoon will feature live performances and the Big Kahuna Marketplace, ripe with traditional food and crafts. The night will conclude with the Kamehameha Luau and *another* specially selected film! Sunday afternoon, you won't want to miss a special, Hawaiian-themed, **Stars on Sunday** performance to close this fabulous weekend! Film titles, performers and a complete schedule will be announced soon. Please watch our website for details!

Join us! Mahalo!

Spring Exhibitions in Gallery W-16

This quarter at the Workhouse brings exhibitions for internationally acclaimed artists, local children's art, "green" art, vinyl toys and fiber art. Every time you visit, you will see something new and entirely different!

The Workhouse will welcome internationally acclaimed ceramic artist Mitch Lyons for an innovative exhibition from March 19-April 25. Since 1968, Lyons has been pioneering his clay mono-printing process using colored clays, not inks to produce this unique form of print making.

Join the Workhouse for the **Art...for a Change!** *George Mason High School Student Artist Palette Exhibition* March 31-April 4. The Workhouse **Art...for a Change!** program is an educational outreach program designed to enhance or provide fine arts curriculum in area schools. At George Mason, the Artist Palette Program introduced various perspectives of an artist's life, from self-awareness to product development. The culminating event is an exhibition of the students' original work at the Workhouse, providing advanced art students the opportunity to participate in a juried exhibition in a professional gallery.



You are invited to a Fleece to Shawl demonstration on the Quad!
Saturday, April 24 from 1 – 5pm (rain date April 25)
Workhouse fiber artists will spin a sheep's wool fleece into yarn and then, weave the yarn into a beautiful handspun wool shawl. This interesting and fun event will be a great introduction to traditional fiber handcrafts for children and adults. The finished shawl will be donated and raffled as a fundraiser to benefit the Workhouse!

Again this year, the Workhouse is pleased to partner with Congressman Gerry Connolly for the Congressional Children's Art Competition: *An Artistic Discovery*. All high school students residing in the 11th Congressional District are invited to submit an entry! The exhibition will be on display at the Workhouse from April 7-25. All the participating artists, and their families, are invited to the reception at the Workhouse on April 18, where Congressman Connolly will announce the winning entry. The 11th Congressional District winner's artwork will be displayed for a year in the US Capitol, along with winning entries from every congressional district.

Also in April, the Workhouse will show their first pop surrealism, or "lowbrow" exhibition, *Urban Decay: A Carnival of Custom Vinyl and Lowbrow Art*, April 28-May 9. This exhibit will focus on the aesthetic of urban low-brow art: a widespread populist art movement with origins in the underground comic world, punk music, hot-rod street culture, graffiti and other subcultures. Curated by the Workhouse's Debra Yarrington, this exhibit will feature some of the most up-and-coming talent from the Northern VA and DC area including: Gabriel Pons, Kenny Brown, Imani K. Brown, Jack Labadie, Jeremy Gann, Sean Donlon, Peter Chang, Brandon Hill, Drew Storm Graham, James Walker, Jorge Guillen, Shawn Huddleston and Rejuvenile. Custom vinyl art, or "designer toys," submitted by local artists will also accompany the featured artists' work in the exhibit. Lowbrow art often has a sense of humor—sometimes the humor is gleeful, sometimes impish, and sometimes it's a sarcastic comment. The opening reception will take place on Saturday, May 1 from 7pm-12am

From May 12-June 13, the Workhouse will present *Greenspiration*. Artists residing in VA, MD, DC, PA & WV are challenged to define, defy or deny GREEN in an all media, juried exhibition that interprets the theme of green in the most creative ways. This exhibition is an attempt to provide artists with a provocative theme that will encourage cre-

ative response outside the color wheel. Trudi Van Dyke, a nationally-known independent juror, curator and fine arts consultant, will select the work to be exhibited. Please join the artists for the awards reception on Sunday, May 16 from 2-4pm.

MAD Artist of the Year! John Noffsinger's work will be featured in a solo exhibition from May 12-June 13. Noffsinger, a wood turner, was one of seven Workhouse studio artists featured in a *MAD Artist!* vignette in 2009. His work won the *People's Choice Award* in the year-end

see **EXHIBITIONS**, page 9

A Reception Not To Be Missed!

The first of its kind at the Workhouse, the opening reception for **Urban Decay: A Carnival of Custom Vinyl and Lowbrow Art** will be held on Saturday, May 1 from 7pm -12am. This is a FREE event, no tickets required. There will be thirteen featured artists, four live bands, refreshments, live painting, tattooing, demonstrations, and a special guest sponsor table featuring *Spaghetti Project* from downtown Fredericksburg. Five **Urban Decay** artists will be customizing vinyl art toys LIVE at the event!

Other special **Urban Decay** events include a screening of *New Brow*, Friday, April 30 at 7pm and a concert, Sunday May 9, featuring "The Osedax." Bring a friend and come enjoy one of the hippest art exhibitions this side of the Beltway!

Call-To-Artists!!!

This is your chance to showcase your talent! The Workhouse, in partnership with the Spaghetti Project, will exhibit Vinyl Art toys as part of **Urban Decay**. Any customized toy can be submitted (multiple entries allowed), along with your name, a title, price and the \$25 entry fee (per entry) to the Workhouse between 12-5pm on April 24 and 25.

Questions? Call Debra Yarrington at 703-584-2909 or email at debrayarrington@lortonarts.org.

ESCAPE...

to the Workhouse Arts Center

Your group can tour the Workhouse for FREE!

A tour is one great way to experience the Workhouse and meet the artists. Tours are available Wednesday through Sunday and can either be self-guided or led by a docent. Each tour offers a taste of the history and a sampling of the arts experience offered here at the Workhouse. During the tour, visitors are welcomed in each studio to meet and interact with the artists. Tours can be paired with a demonstration, luncheon or hands-on class, for a fee. The possibilities are endless!

The letter below was sent to the Workhouse from local Webelo Den Leader, Bob Gilmore, who recently brought his den to the Workhouse. His letter chronicles their experience while interacting with the various artists, experiencing the art and absorbing the history offered at the Workhouse.

Dear Julie [Community Relations Manager],

Wow! What can I say. On behalf of the parents and scouts from Pack 683 Webelos I Den 1, I want to say thank you very much. We had a fantastic time. We had only planned to be [at the Workhouse] for an hour. By the time we were ready to leave, we realized we were there for two hours and wished we could stay longer. But, the Scouts were getting hungry.

I can't say enough [about] how everyone we met [was] extremely welcoming and eager to share a little history of the Workhouse Arts Center as well as show and demonstrate their art to us. Time and time again, whichever studio we went into, the artists smiled and reached out to the Scouts. At the very end of our tour, we were able to hear a little history of the prison as well.

The parents enjoyed every studio and artist we were able to see and talk with. The Scouts' favorite studio was the Glass Studio, and in particular [a spontaneous flameworking demonstration]. [The artist] took the time to show and tell the Scouts exactly what he was doing. The Scouts (parents too) were amazed at what he could do. [He] gave each Scout a marble afterwards and I know they really thought he was "cool." Other highlights for the Scouts were a painting of a Golden Retriever, the etchings of a Bengal tiger, the firing of silver into a ball (jewelry), of course the foot prints on the outside wall, and much, much more.

The Workhouse Arts Center is truly a must see by all. I know I will be coming back.

—Bob Gilmore
Webelos Den Leader
Pack 683
Webelos I Den 1

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Spot-LYTE Welcomes Spring with Two Entertaining Performances!

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie

Laura Joffe Numeroff, author
Jody Davidson, playwright

Who would ever suspect that a tiny little mouse could wear out an energetic young boy? Well, if you're going to go around giving an exuberantly bossy rodent a cookie, you'd best be prepared to do one or two more favors for it before your day is through. For example, he'll certainly need a glass of milk to wash down that cookie, won't he? And you can't expect him to drink the milk without a straw, can you? This tale of warped logic is a sure-fire winner in the giggle-generator category!

Mother Goose is Eaten by Werewolves

By Steph DeFerie

Mother Goose is no fool. As soon as she discovers real werewolves are in this production, she makes a break for it and it looks like our show is over before it's even begun. But wait! Four adventurous audience members—a fairy godmother, a witch, a prince, and a wolf—save the day by acting out their own versions of Sleeping Beauty. This is not your ordinary mother goose!

March 31, April 1, 2 & 3

All performances at 10 am and 1pm

Tickets are \$5. Seating is limited, purchase tickets online at www.workhousearts.org or by calling 703-584-2900.

Workhouse Launches 2010 Annual Fund

The Workhouse Art Center offers an array of exciting programs. From the visual arts, to the performing arts there is much to enjoy for art patrons of all ages. In order to help sustain these programs, we invite you to experience the art of giving. By giving to 2010 Workhouse Annual fund, you will help us:

- Provide **a quality interactive arts experience** that includes meeting artists, watching them work, seeing them perform, purchasing their work, taking classes and enabling all to cultivate their own creativity.
- Build **a highly diverse arts program** that includes all forms of visual and performing arts.
- Deliver **arts education to people of all ages and all abilities** both at the Workhouse and in the community.

- Create **a viable economic entity** that will enable the artists at the Workhouse to prosper, as well as provide significant economic stimulus to the communities it serves.

How to Give

We have enclosed an annual fund envelope for your convenience when making your tax deductible donation. Simply fill out the form on the inside flap and mail it, or call us at 703-584-2900 to make your donation. Whatever amount you can manage is truly appreciated and will help the Workhouse Arts Center continue to enrich the lives of all within our reach.

Donations are Tax Deductible

The Lorton Arts Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, Federal Tax ID # 75-3057770. All donations made are tax deductible.

MINDS WIDE OPEN Kicks Off at the Workhouse!

In March, the Workhouse participated in MINDS WIDE OPEN: Virginia Celebrates Women in the Arts, a statewide celebration sponsored by the Virginia Commission for the Arts (VCA). From March through June, thousands of special events will occur throughout VA to honor contributions by women to arts and culture. The Workhouse is honored to have been chosen by the VCA as the Fairfax County launch site for this campaign.



PHOTO BY WAYNE GUENTHER

The Workhouse and the VCA partnered for a successful event on March 7.

As part of Minds Wide Open, the Workhouse featured two exhibitions: 6 Abstract Women and Celebrating Women IN Arts and Design. The launch event, held in conjunction with the exhibitions opening

reception on March 7, allowed visitors to interact with the featured artists. Peggy Baggett, Executive Director for the VCA, spoke at the reception. "It's a hard time for the arts," she said, "as the economic hardships make it increasingly difficult for arts groups to find funding. But places like the Workhouse, with both public and private funding, are the best ways to show the importance of the arts...this is a wonderful example - a place of great misery that has become a place of great beauty."

Mention the Workhouse when buying or selling your home with Blackmon Homes Team and they will donate \$500 to the Workhouse!



*The Workhouse Arts Center...
Escape to Arts and Entertainment!*

Calendar of Events for April—June 2010

Special Events

Spot-LYTE: Children's Performances

March 31–April 3, 10am & 1pm

ArtNotes: TBA

Saturday, April 3

2nd Saturday Art Walks

Saturday, April 10, 6-9pm
AIDP Reception, 6-7pm

Stars on Sunday: TBA

Sunday, April 11

Gallery After Hours: "Goldenberg Duo"

Sunday, April 18, 6pm

Fiber Arts Invitational: Fleece to Shawl

Saturday, April 24, 1-5pm

Workhouse Film Institute: Women's Studies

Saturday, April 24, 7:30pm

Workhouse Film Institute: New Brow: Contemporary Underground Art

Friday, April 30, 7pm

ArtNotes: "Encore Senior Choral"

Saturday, May 1, 2pm

2nd Saturday Art Walks

Saturday, May 8, 6-9pm
AIDP Reception, 6-7pm

Stars on Sunday: "The Osedax"

Sunday, May 9, 3pm

Gallery After Hours: "Solar Powered Sun Destroyer" and "Last Days of Empire"

Saturday, May 15, 7:30pm

Foulger-Pratt 2010 Workhouse Golf Classic

May 20, 9am-3pm
Laurel Hill Golf Club

Workhouse Film Institute: Before Sunrise

Saturday, May 22, 7:30pm

Spot-LYTE Performances

May 28-May 30, TBA

Spot-LYTE Performances

June 2-June 5, TBA

ArtNotes: "Lynne Mackey"

Saturday, June 5, 7pm

Workhouse Film Institute: Cinematic Tourist Film Weekend: Destination Hawaii

Friday-Sunday, June 11-13

2nd Saturday Art Walks

Saturday, June 12, 6-9pm
AIDP Reception, 6-7pm

Stars on Sunday: "The Aloha Boys"

Sunday, June 13, 2pm

Gallery After Hours: TBA

Saturday, June 19

Exhibitions

Workhouse Ceramics Visiting Artist: Mitch Lyons

March 19- April 25

Art...for a Change! George Mason HS Artist Palette Exhibition

March 31- April 4

Congressional Children's Art Competition: An Artistic Discovery

April 7-25

Artist Reception April 18, 2-4pm

Urban Decay: A Carnival of Custom Vinyl and Lowbrow Art

April 28-May 9

Opening Reception May 1, 7pm-12am

Greenspiration

May 12- June 13

Opening Reception May 16, 2-4pm

2009 MAD! Artist of the Year Exhibition

May 12 - June 13

Artist Reception June 12

Fiber Arts Invitational Yard Art - Art at the Yard

June 16- July 18

Opening Reception June 20, 2-4pm

**Doors open 30 minutes prior for all performing arts events.*

Workhouse Artist Accolades

Several of the wonderfully gifted Workhouse studio artists have been recently acknowledged, outside of the Workhouse, for their incredible skills! **Patricia McMahon Rice's** work, *The Ritter Family*, won third place in the Pastel category of the Portrait Society of America's Member Showcase Competition. Her piece was chosen from what the Society describes as "an unprecedented number of entries." Workhouse Artist **Carol Iglesias** has been published in the recently released book *Best of America Pastel Artists, Vol. II*, by Kennedy Publishing. Selected from hundreds of entries, the 130 images presented in the book represent the most talented artists and their works in a wide array of styles, techniques and subjects, including landscapes, portraits, still-lives and abstracts.

Another Workhouse artist, **Carol Hamilton**, created a unique opportunity. She invited a well-known metal clay artist, Gordon Uyehara, from Hawaii, to visit the Workhouse. While hosting Gordon for two weeks, a special visiting artist workshop was offered. Given the success of this event, Hamilton plans to offer more guest artist workshops in the future!

The accomplishments of these artists speak to the vast amount of talent that lies within the Workhouse. If you have not explored the studio buildings in a while, now is the perfect time to visit your favorite artist and discover a few new ones!



Visiting artist Gordon Uyehara speaks to students

Upcoming Ceramics Workshops—Sign up Today!

Surface It!

China Painting and Overglaze Workshop Series

Learn the centuries old China Painting technique and use of ceramic overglazes! All-skill levels of potters, hand-builders, painters or china painters, 16 years of age or older, are welcome.

\$65 members/\$75 non-members

Instructors: Trish Vermillion /Ericka Radke

Saturday, April 3 from 1-4pm (Vermillion)

Saturday, May 8 from 1-4pm (Radke)

Saturday, June 12 from 1-4pm (Vermillion)

Clay Lockdown

Always wanted to try your hand with clay, but aren't sure if it is for you? Come try it out with our expert instructors and learn how fun it can be to create handmade objects out of clay. Learn the basics of Hand-building and Wheel-throwing pots on the potter's wheel!

\$40 per class (or try BOTH for \$75!)

Instructors: Ericka Radke and Joan Ulrich

Saturday, April 17

Hand-building from 1-3pm (Radke)

Wheel-throwing from 3:30-5:30pm (Ulrich)

Registration is available on the Workhouse website!

Workhouse Art Guild Awards

January

Barbara Sullivan, *Old Man Cleaning Fish*, Best in Show

B.K. Noh, *Orange with Stripes*, Equal Merit

Judy Wengrovitz, *Life Circles*, Equal Merit

February

Linda Carlson, *Garden Dreams*, Best in Show

Barbara Sullivan, *Iris Dance*, Equal Merit

Sy Wengrovitz, *Gone Swimming II*, Equal Merit

March

Elena Wright, *Texas Passion*, Best in Show

Melanie Beus, *Wanderer*, Equal Merit

Roger Frey, *Gesture Series: Untitled 23*, Equal Merit

Workhouse Associate Designer's Choice Awards

January: Lorrie Herman

February: Kathy Guzman

March: Kathryn Lagassey

The Workhouse is on
twitter

The Workhouse is very excited to announce that we have joined Twitter! Be sure to follow our tweets to stay informed about the latest exciting exhibits, events and performances. Twitter is a great way for us to hear from you as well, so please keep in contact with us! Follow us at: <http://www.twitter.com/workhousearts1>

Help For Haiti

During the month of May, the Lorton Arts Foundation will donate 10% of all proceeds from the sale of our Black & Light candles to Airline Ambassadors International, an organization that provides aid to Haiti. Black & Light candles have the incredible ability to glow from wick to base. Once lit, the glow radiates from every angle. By purchasing these candles in the Workhouse Gift Shop, you will directly benefit the Haitian relief effort. For more information about Airline Ambassadors International, please visit:

www.airlineamb.org

EXHIBITIONS, from page 4

exhibition of all 2009 MAD Artists. A meet the artist reception will be held on June 13.

In June, the New Image Artists will open an exhibition entitled, *Fiber Arts Invitational: Yard Art-Art at the Yard*. The artists will each choose to interpret the theme of "yard art" in individually creative ways. Fiber techniques include hand and machine quilting, hand dyed fabric, collage, batik, photographic techniques, abstract and representational. The group has recently shown exhibitions at The Suffolk Museum, Marymount University and in Tacoma, WA. This will be the first venue for this new work by these talented artists whose work has been nationally and internationally exhibited and collected. The exhibition will be curated by Trudi Van Dyke.

Don't forget! Each month the Workhouse Art Guild members and the Workhouse Associates present a new exhibit of work. Please come meet these talented artists at the 2nd Saturday opening receptions from 6-9pm, in Gallery W-16.

PHASE II, from page 1

While many buildings will be part of the Phase II Construction, the Workhouse is thrilled to announce that one of the first buildings to be renovated will become the new Kid Zone. While construction delays are possible, it is the goal of the LAF Construction Team to open the new Kid Zone this summer! The design concept for Kid Zone started with the desire to provide an inspirational environment for the young-at-heart, through educational opportunities and creative art support. With this as our inspiration, the construction team developed a facility that includes modern classrooms and a professionally designed performing arts studio theatre.

The studio theatre will incorporate a stage, backstage area, production booth and stadium-style seating. With integrated wiring systems, theater lighting, specially designed sound attenuated ductwork, and acoustically insulated walls, the theatre will provide a professional experience for the performers, production students and audience. It will also provide support for group assemblies and educational seminars.

Each Kid Zone classroom will be supported by modern Wi-Fi technology and fiber optic data wiring. Traditional classroom accoutrements, such as blackboards and bulletin boards, will complete the training aids. Two larger classrooms will accommodate 26 students each, while smaller classrooms will host up to 16 students. A spacious lounge area has been included to provide a comfortable waiting area for parents and visitors.

The interior decor of Kid Zone will include elements of historical significance. Both the original Lorton Brick and truss work, installed by former prison inmates, will remain exposed. Some more modern elements include hypoallergenic carpets, creative paint designs, decorative wall coverings and custom designed tile work. The integration of historic building elements and modern interior finishes will provide an experience that is unique.

During Phase II, detailed highlights about this exciting project will be provided in upcoming *Insider* editions! The LAF Construction Team hopes that by providing a more in-depth view of the final vision, our patrons will share in our anticipation of what is to come at the Workhouse.

Cool Winter Happenings in Art of Movement

The Workhouse Art of Movement (AOM) Program, lead by Lesley Spalding, hosted the first ever Northern Virginia Yoga and Pilates Collective on January 14, 2010. This event brought together Yoga and Pilates professionals for a discussion on women's health, which was described by Lesley as "excellent." The discussion was lead by Mary Nalls, owner of the nearby Back in Motion Physical Therapy located in Lorton Station.



January Pilates Collective Participants

In February, AOM also featured a special Valentine's Day "Partner Yoga Class." Eight couples turned out for the event and enjoyed themselves, while learning and practicing the healthy and time-tested poses of yoga. Look out for this to become an annual Valentine's Day Event!

AOM is also excited to announce that the number of courses is growing! New offerings include: Ballet Body, Dance Basics for Kids, Kidmotion by Michelle Logsdon and Hip Hop Dance for children and adults lead by Nikki Gambhir. There is something for everyone in the Art of Movement! For more information email Lesley Spalding at lesleyspalding@lortonarts.org.

Get to Know the Workhouse Institute Instructors



As our second year of classes kicks off with a bang, the Workhouse Institute welcomes and introduces new and exciting instructors and classes. Whether you're in the mood to dance up a storm with Nikki Gambhir, our new Hip Hop instructor, or create one-of-a-kind textile designs with N'ketiah Brakohiapa in a Resist-Dye workshop, we are sure you'll find an activity to enjoy!

Chef Kathleen Linton

Culinary Arts Instructor

The daughter of a military officer, Chef Kathleen has traveled extensively in Europe and the US. Through her travels, she became interested in the wide variety of foods available and the manner in which they were presented. As a teenager, she often surprised her family with exotic new recipes. It was not until she volunteered to help members of the Women's Exchange with weddings and other events in St Augustine, FL, that she realized she would like to make Culinary Arts her career. After attending First Coast Technical Institute to become a Certified Chef, she worked as the corporate chef for Martin Greer, preparing displays for food shows. She has taught classes at FCTI, Williams Sonoma and a variety of other venues. Chef Kathleen has also been a caterer and party coordinator for nearly every type of event imaginable. She is thrilled to share her skills and culinary secrets with students at the Workhouse.

Dana Evans

Metalsmith Instructor

Dana Evans started her professional life as an architect, having earned her Master of Architecture degree from the University of Texas. Following the birth of her children, she went from a successful architecture career, to the more family-friendly exploration of the jewelry field.

Introducing New Workhouse Registrar

Please join The Workhouse Institute in welcoming our new Registrar, Debra Yarrington. After receiving a BA in Studio Art and her Teaching Certification in 2003 from the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, VA, Debra earned her MFA in Ceramics from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, PA in 2007. Soon after, she joined the Workhouse staff in 2008 as a Gallery Associate. As the new registrar, Debra will be the main point of contact for any information pertaining to classes, workshops and additions. She will also act as liaison between instructors and new students. We are excited to welcome Debra to The Workhouse Institute team!

After several courses and lots of experimentation, Dana learned to hand-cut and polish stones, as well as implement metalsmithing techniques for setting stones in silver and other precious metals. She has married her design training in architecture with her jewelry and lapidary skills. She has also organized workshops and networking opportunities for metalsmiths living and working in Northern VA. Influenced by form, color, texture, pattern, balance, beauty and intuition, Dana is a big believer in the power of sketching.

E. Anne Cox

Japanese Crafts Instructor

E. Anne Cox has a BFA from Columbus College of Art and Design and a Bachelor of Art Education from The Ohio State University. She has continued her studies at the Washington Japanese School of Dolls and Crafts, with a particular focus in the areas of washi paper arts and festival dolls. She has played a major role in the creation of several period educational programs for children, focusing on crafts such as wool working, leather craft, doll and toy making. Ms. Cox has enjoyed being an instructor for over 35 years, due to the joy she derives in sharing the wonderful and exciting things she has learned with her students.

N'ketiah (Hubert) Brakohiapa

Textiles Instructor

N'ketiah received his BFA in Textile/Surface Design from the Fashion Institute of Technology, NY. He has exhibited work and taught workshops in New York City and along the East Coast. Owner, artist and designer of N'ketiah Fabrics and Couture, N'ketiah's clients include: Ralph Lauren, Francoise Olivas, Impala, The Marmaxx Group and RL Home. A

patient, creative master he is skilled at engaging people in a positive, respectful environment. N'ketiah is a seasoned textile designer and an arts and crafts specialist, deeply rooted in creativity and originality.



N'ketiah Brakohiapa (Back Center)

Frank Milligan

Writing Instructor

Frank Milligan earned his Master of Arts in Writing (fiction) from Johns Hopkins University, a Master of Business and Public Administration Degree from Southeastern University, as well as a Bachelor's degree in Psychology. A published writer and college instructor, Frank describes his teaching philosophy: "I work hard to establish a positive, supportive, informal classroom atmosphere and a bond of trust with the students, where no question, no matter how basic, is considered silly. I provide a balance of visual, aural, and hands-on instruction to reflect the various ways adults learn."

Nikki Rane Gambhir

Hip Hop Dance Instructor

Nikki is a choreographer, dancer and teacher in the DC Metro area. She currently performs with Aysha Upchurch/Life Rhythm Move Project, DCypher Dance, Classical Repertory Dance Theatre and previously X Faction Dance Company. Her performance experience includes: Cirque du Soleil, B2K, Darrin

Henson and the Independent Music Awards. She is a featured dancer in the Bollywood movie *Ta Ra Rum Pum* and she has performed live on BET's 106 & Park. Her choreography has been showcased at the Kennedy Center, and for Georgetown University's Dance Company. Nikki is currently the artistic director of Urban Impact, Joy of Motion Dance Center's teen hip hop company and the Outreach director for DCypher Dance. She believes that the

arts are an essential part of any community and hopes her teaching and performing will promote positive and healthy expression through dance.

John Blee *Painting Instructor*

John Blee earned his BA in Painting from Maryland Institute of Art and later a MA in Painting from Hunter College. While teaching over several

decades, John has evolved a teaching philosophy that respects the individuality of each student. Blee has been exhibiting throughout the country since 1966 and recently had a solo exhibition in Paris, France. John is currently an art critic for the Georgetown and Downtowner in Washington, DC, the Assistant Director of the Zenith Gallery and teaches both at the Workhouse and at the Art League in Alexandria.

Get to Know the Workhouse Associates



Cookin' Outside by Cedric Baker

Cedric Baker *Workhouse Associate*

I was born in NC and my family soon moved to New York City. I would spend most of my youth between the two places. As a young man I served in the U.S. Air Force, after which I utilized the GI Bill to pursue my childhood dream of becoming an artist. My schooling began at Sacramento City College where my main areas of study were painting, drawing and printmaking. Three years later, I would transfer to NYC to study at Pratt Institute to complete my studies in the Fine Arts. Today, I realize the influences of the Bay Area expressionists, and the Northern California painters have remained with me, as have my ten years as an employee at the National Gallery of Art here in DC, where the history lessons were so many. But make no mistake about it, I'm the artist

that I am, because of the decade of the eighties where I drove a NYC taxi. I became consumed by the downtown arts and club scene that produced graffiti, hip-hop and a new wave of painters like Basquiat, Keith Haring and the American master artist Romare Bearden, who were instrumental friends. It is these experiences I draw upon to create the work I do today!

Cedric's work can be found in private collections in Sacramento, CA; New York, NY; Goldsboro, NC; Washington, DC; and Northern VA. He participated in the Washington, DC Community Mural Project in 2008. Cedric's Public Art Program participation includes Art in the Embassies, 2009-2012 through the US State Department, and DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities in Washington, DC in 2002.

Jan Moffatt *Workhouse Associate*

"Art has always been at the core of my life," explains Workhouse Associate, Jan E. Moffatt. "As a child I played in swamps and painted the water and weeds and sky and fields along the coast of Connecticut. I am still enchanted by the landscape and playing with paint! I fall more in love with painting every day."

After receiving a BA in Fine Arts, Moffatt built a career as an award-winning graphic designer and owned a design firm in Alexandria. Closing the business in the late 80s, she retained some of her design clients and returned to her passion—painting. She joined The Art League in Alexandria, entered shows, volunteered in the gallery and served

on the Board of Directors for 10 years. In 1991, she joined the Loft Gallery in Occoquan and has a studio in the adjoining Loft Art Center. "The friendships and support I found with these groups allowed me to transition from my design career into painting."

In the July 2007 issue of *élan* magazine, Trudi Van Dyke, wrote of Moffatt's process—"She is able to draw on memories in conscious and unconscious ways. With camera in hand, this avid traveler documents the places... unlike many artists, she doesn't use her photographs for direct application to a painting, but instead allows them to remind her of moments in time and space. Painting with a somewhat Zen-like detachment, she allows each piece to lead her in its own way to completion."

Moffatt has two solo shows in 2010. In June, she will explore morning light in *A New Day*, exhibiting at The Loft Gallery. Later in the year, her solo show, *Tapestry*, will exhibit at the Manor House from November through December. This will be her third solo show at the Manor House.



Lavender Morning by Jan Moffatt



Enriching the Community Through the Arts

Workhouse Arts Center
9517 Workhouse Way
Lorton, VA 22079

703-584-2900

www.WorkhouseArts.org

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Workhouse Hours of Operation

Gallery W-16 and Artist Studio Buildings

Wednesday–Saturday
11:00AM–7:00PM

Sunday
12:00PM–5:00PM

The Workhouse complex is closed Monday and Tuesday (except for scheduled classes and workshops)

Spring Has Sprung!

Register Today for Classes and Workshops

You can smell it in the air! Spring is on the way to fill our days with sun and fun, with a whole new array of arts classes and workshops! Our spring quarter runs March 29 - May 30 and our summer quarter will start on June 21.

Many new classes, and of course old favorites, will be featured this spring and summer. The Workhouse will offer classes in paper-making, hip hop dance, creative writing, and culinary arts, not to mention oil and acrylic painting, photography, ceramics, glass and much, much more. Registration for both spring and summer courses is now open and can be completed by phone, fax, mail or online at www.WorkhouseArts.org.



The Workhouse will introduce several one and two day workshops for kids and adults, as well as open studio time in ceramics, glass, drawing, painting and precious metal clay. Open studio time will occur weekly at various times throughout the spring and summer, and are a great way to keep your creative juices flowing outside of class.

New classes and workshops are always in development and being added to the web version of the catalog. For the most up-to-date information and complete course catalog listings, check us out online! We're looking forward to a great spring and hot summer and hope to see you here at the Workhouse!



Save the Date!



**Tee off FORE the Arts!
Foulger-Pratt 2010
Workhouse Golf Classic**

**Laurel Hill Golf Club
Thursday, May 20**

To register for the tournament and for sponsorship opportunities contact Julie Booth at juliebooth@lortonarts.org or at 703-584-2923.