

March

- 3 Board Meeting 6:30pm
- 20-21 "Top Secret"-member show-drop off
- "Mixed Realities"-pick up
- 20 Sister City Foundation-Student competition exhibit (reception at 6:30-8:30pm)
- 27 4th Friday 7-9pm

April

- 7 PAC deadline at 4pm!!!
- Board Meeting 6:30pm
- 10-11 "Top Secret"-pick up
- 14 PAC-"Legato" opens
- 24 PAC reception 6-8pm

May

- 5 Board Meeting 6:30pm
- 15-16 PAC—pick up
- "Beaux Temps"—drop off
- 22 4th Friday

REMINDER

Please pick up your work from the gallery after the monthly show. Work left for **more than 10 NAL business days** will be considered property of NAL.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

Keep up with the latest events, classes, art work & more!

Don't want to maintain your own website? Set up a gallery webpage on ours for **\$25/year**. Need help? Let us know!

Already on our website? Time to update your photos!

For details call 630.355.2530
www.napervilleartleague.com
naperartleague@aol.com

NEWSLETTER

March 2026

WILLARD SMITH III. 100 YRS. YOUNG!!!



Happy Birthday!



Naperville Art League recognizes member Willard R. Smith III who turned 100 on February 1, 2026. A commemorative party was held at Tabor Hills Healthcare facility in Naperville, and a Certificate of Recognition was presented by Naperville Mayor, Scott Wehrli.

Willard's NAL membership spans decades. We are pleased to acknowledge his contributions to the arts.

Willard is a WWII veteran, having served in the Army artillery. At the age of 18, Willard was among those brave soldiers who fought in the Battle of Luzon, a battle that was crucial to the liberation of the Philippines from Japanese occupation and paved the way for the defeat of Japan.

During the war he was stationed for a while in New Guinea, where he learned jewelry-making in his spare time to make a little extra money.

After the war, Willard attended University of Wisconsin and went on to become an art teacher and taught "just about every kind of

art" he said. He taught Elementary, Jr. High and High School levels and moved on to teach at College of DuPage for 25 years. His first wife, Joan, passed away. He later married Joyce, who is now 97.

Looking back over 100 years, Willard touched many lives. We thank him for sharing his love of art and for his involvement in the Naperville Art League. We wish him the best. (lv)



**41st Riverwalk Fine Art
 Fair
 will be Sept. 19 & 20
 2026**

The mural on the south side of
 our building, called *World's
 Greatest Artists*, is part of
 Naperville's Century Walk.
 Informational brochures are
 available at our Gallery.



**WELCOME NEW
 MEMBERS IN
 FEBRUARY 2026**

- Christine Barnes
- Dina Chamblee
- Allison Geers
- Aubrey Saha
- Sharon O'Connor Sleezer
- Chris Soderstrom
- Kevin Tiemeier
- Phil Zimmerman

CONTACT US!

If you have information you would like to
 appear in the NAL Newsletter, please submit
 via e-mail at naperartleague@aol.com, call
 630.355.2530 or send it to the gallery at 508
 N. Center St., Naperville, IL 60563. Items
 must be received by the end of the month in
 order to appear in the next month's newslet-
 ter and are accepted on a first come, first
 served basis as space is limited.

“MIXED REALITIES” - MEMBER EXHIBIT

Best of Show:

Patricia Melekus “Mixed Reality”

Best of Theme:

Laura Lein-Svencner “Baby Blues”

Merit Awards:

Robert Koch “State Line Barn”

Maggie Wuts “Fishing”

Melissa Suchinski “Not So Forbidden Fruit”

Firoza Syed “Contemporary Strings 1”

Dorothy Lindquist “Jennifer”

Art by: Laura Lein-Svencner “Baby Blues”



JUDGE: Carmelo Schifano

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Naperville, IL- Water Street Downtown Na-
 perville announces the 3rd Annual Water
 Street Fine Art & Fine Craft Fair, a juried art
 exhibition and sale, to be held on **Sunday,
 July 12 from 10 am until 5 pm** along Water
 and Webster Streets in Downtown Naperville,
 adjacent to the renowned Naperville
 Riverwalk, Naper Settlement and Hotel Indigo
 Naperville Riverwalk.

The show is inviting local artists from the
 Chicago and suburban area to exhibit fine art
 and fine crafts in a variety of media including
 painting, drawing, sculpture, fiber, graphics,
 mixed media, jewelry, photography, pottery,
 metalwork, glass, wood, digital art work,
 glass, and digital art.

Local artists wishing to apply to the show
 may do so from February 15-May 15. There is
 no application fee, but booth fees do apply.

A jury is expected to select 25-30 artists to
 participate in the show.

Overnight accommodation for visitors and
 artists is available at Hotel Indigo Naperville
 Riverwalk.

Additional artist information and application
 may be found at:

[https://www.zapplication.org/event-
 info.php?ID=14387](https://www.zapplication.org/event-info.php?ID=14387)



EXHIBIT NEWS

The new exhibit called *“Top Secret”* will be on display from **March 24th through April 10th**. Bring your friends and families to the reception on **March 27th, (7-9pm)** to celebrate the winners of this fabulous exhibit.

If you want to help to install future shows, please let us know, and we will gladly add your name to the volunteers’ list.

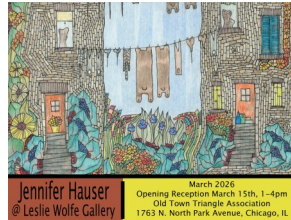
Save the dates for **Friends of Danada Nature Art & Photo Show**: March 14 & 15. Artists can submit/download application:

danadahouse.org/events prior to 3/10 drop off.



The **Sister City Foundation** will have a guest show—student competition in our gallery on **March 20, 6:30-8:30pm**.

Jennifer Hauser invites you to her solo exhibition on **March 15, (1-4pm)** at the Leslie Wolfe Gallery (1763 N. North Park Avenue, Chicago).



FEATURED TEACHER — LISA TOLBERT



Mosaic Art Teacher, Lisa Tolbert, Discovered this Addictively Colorful Medium by Happy Accident for her Garden

Lisa may modestly shy away from calling herself an artist, but her vibrant mosaic work and popular classes tell another story. Teaching projects such as steppingstones, birdhouses, birdbaths, and planters, she helps students create durable, weather-resistant art that brings color and character to outdoor spaces.

Her passion for mosaics began at an art show in Naperville, where she discovered handmade mosaic tables that seemed perfect for her garden.



After learning the artist taught classes, Lisa eagerly enrolled. She created a birdbath in her first class—and was hooked.

Determined to refine her skills, Lisa went on to study at the Chicago Mosaic School, where she learned proper techniques and materials. A strong believer in recycling and reuse, she sources much of her work from thrifted china and glassware, giving new life to chipped plates and old vases. At one point, her collection even filled a storage unit.

Lisa’s favorite projects include birdbaths, birdhouses, and versatile planters that can be enjoyed year-round. As an instructor, she emphasizes that mosaics are approachable and forgiving. In just a three-hour class, students leave with a finished piece—and a sense of pride.

Her “one-and-done” classes cost about \$85 and are offered at the Naperville Art League, with upcoming sessions scheduled until December 2026.

(lk)

CHECK OUT OUR ONGOING CLASSES!

OIL PAINTING/ACRYLIC with Chris
Adults: Tuesdays (see calendar for dates)
10:00 am—12:00 pm
3week class \$84

OIL PAINTING/ACRYLIC with Chris
Adults: Tuesdays (see calendar for dates)
6:30—8:30 pm
3week class \$84

ONGOING OPEN STUDIO
Adults: Wednesdays
6:30 pm—8:30 pm
\$5/session—discounts available

WATERCOLOR PAINTING with Carmelo
Adults: Thursdays
9:00 am—11:00 am basic levels
11:00am—1:00pm intermediate
4-sessions \$120

NAL & NPD Classes

ADULTS

- Art Meditation with Michelle
- Calligraphy with Beata
- Collage with Laura
- Creative Flow with Victoria
- Drawing for Beginners with Jake
- Intuitive painting with Foruzan
- Landscapes Paintings with Karen
- Mosaic with Lisa
- Paint Like and Impressionists with Karen

CHILDREN

- Drawing Class with Cherie
- Elements of Arts with Rose
- Landscape Paintings for teens with Rose

We are constantly adding new adult and children classes. Please check out our website for a current class schedule.

www.napervilleartleague.com



Naperville Fine Art Center & Gallery
508 North Center Street
Naperville, IL 60563

Phone: 630-355-2530
naperartleague@aol.com
www.napervilleartleague.com

March 2026



SPONSORS OF THE NAPERVILLE ART LEAGUE

After Hours Film Society

Post Office Box 5266
Wheaton, IL 60189
630.534.4528
Info@Afterhoursfilmsociety.com

Naperville Bank & Trust

555 Fort Hill Drive
Naperville, IL 60540
630.369.3555
www.banknaperville.com

Lewis University

One University Parkway
Romeoville, IL 60446
815.838.0500
www.lewisu.edu

Colbert Custom Framing & Art Printing

1283 S Naper Blvd.,
Naperville, IL 60540
630.717.1448

Main Street Promenade

55 S. Main Street
Naperville, IL 60540
630.305.7171

MAIN STREET
PROMENADE

NAPERVILLE
BANK & TRUST®

