

MVAL

# Art & the Artist

April 2025

Newsletter for the Mid-Valley Arts League



Monica Homer

**Demonstration by Robin Dryscoll**



**MID-VALLEY ARTS LEAGUE  
2024 - 2025 BOARD OFFICERS**

- President ----- Dilmit Singh
- First Vice President (Programs)  
----- Elana Goldheimer
- Second Vice President  
(Membership) ----- Mary Archibald
- Third Vice President  
(Exhibits) ----- open
- Treasurer -----
- Recording Secretary  
----- Monica Homer
- Corresponding Secretary  
----- Pam McGuern
- Parliamentarian -----

---

Membership in MVAL:  
Membership is open to artists and art lovers  
of all levels.  
If you are interested in membership  
contact:  
Mary Archibald  
archibald.m@gmail.com

---

WEBSITE:  
Midvalleyartsleague.org  
or MVAL.org  
Website Editor: Jennifer Zapp

---

Art & the Artist Editor:  
Joyce Nunamaker

All articles and announcements  
to be included in the  
Art & the Artist may be sent to:  
253 Windsong Court  
Azusa, CA 91702  
626-334-1646  
E-mail: janunamaker@verizon.net

Deadline is the first Wednesday of the  
month. If you have an event that takes  
place in the first half of the month - be  
sure to get it in the month before.

**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**



Dear Members,

We keep calm and carry on! Thank you to Lorena Massa for an excellent demo and workshop. Our members are very grateful for the opportunity and have learned a lot more.

Spring is in the air and I have spotted many of the MVAL folk in Descanso Gardens painting the tulips and the daffodils. The perfection of the flowers is something to marvel at and the sensory experience of seeing them color coded together is spectacular. Who could appreciate that better than artists! If you haven’t been that way, go before the blooms start to die out which may happen soon as we have a heat wave. We don’t spring, we gush forward into summer.

Robin Driscoll – another excellent artist - is our demonstrator at the general meeting on April 16th. Once again, I thank Elana and the board team for arranging such diverse artists and ensuring that we all have learning experiences. Thank you to the members who have been contributing to the refreshment table. We appreciate you all!

And don’t forget – Masters in the Park is coming on Saturday, May 17th! Save the date.

Looking forward to seeing many of you in person at the meeting.

Sincerely,  
**Dilmit Singh**  
*MVAL President*

**MEETING DATES**

**APRIL GENERAL MEETING**

**IN PERSON and ZOOM MEETING**

April 16th, 2025 - 7:30 PM  
Church of the Good Shepherd  
400 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia, CA 91007-6819

**MAY BOARD MEETING**

**May 7th, 2025**  
Virtual Meeting via Zoom.



# APRIL DEMONSTRATION

## Robin Driscoll live and - via zoom.

Robin Driscoll grew up mostly in Philadelphia. She was greatly influenced by both her parents. Her father's transfer to Milan, Italy was a huge influence. She was further influenced by his strong belief in constant learning through curiosity and love of documentary photography. Her mother was also a great influencer as a classically trained (prodigy) music pianist who decided to study fine arts and painting at Syracuse University. Robin studied serious violin through high school but made the difficult decision to go to Cleveland Institute of Art.



After two years at Art Institute the financial challenges were too difficult, so Robin looked for different alternatives to get experience as a photographer. She enlisted in the Navy. She studied photography at the US Navy School of Photography A School with B School, specialization in Photojournalism and Multi-Media Production. She enjoyed her duty stations working as Photographer's Mate and meeting her husband another Photographer's Mate in Sigonella, Sicily and Norfolk, Virginia.

After serving, Robin and her husband settled in Sandy Hook, Conn. Several years later they moved to Claremont to be closer to her family. She earned a BSBA in Business Administration and then a Juris Doctorate from California Southern School of Law. A car accident before the bar exam ended her dream of practicing law. With rehab using old learning of photography, she started shooting again. And in time her images started winning competitions and RD Photo Services a Sports Photography and Portrait Photography business began. Within a few years RD Photo Services organically grew into a business specializing in action sports, portraits, and family portraits. Robin's action sport images started winning awards and the passion grew and she found the biggest joy of all was doing what she was doing all along-creating images that tell a story. However, with Covid, the business had to change and Robin and to find a new way to express herself.



Robin started painting in watercolor, acrylic and finally with alcohol ink. Alcohol ink in all in fluidity and its boldness is where she finds her joy! For now...always experimenting with new media! Like taking small prints of her alcohol ink paintings and imbedding them in charms of necklaces, bracelets, and keychains. The whole process is about re-finding passion after changes.



### IN PERSON MEETING

Church of the Good Shepherd  
400 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia, CA 91007-6819

### ZOOM MEETING

For those preferring to stay home. You will receive an email before the meeting telling you how to log on ZOOM to attend. The meeting will be open for log-in starting around 7pm.



## ART OF THE MONTH

Art of the Month is going back to being in person, at the meeting only.  
Work may be framed or matted so that it can be displayed on an easel.  
If you have an easel, floor or table style, PLEASE bring it.  
WINNER RECEIVES A RIBBON!

All subjects are welcome.

**Nikki Thomas**  
Art of the Month Chair

## ARTIST NEWS

**April Drew Foster**

ON DISPLAY  
Pasadena Public Library  
Hastings Branch  
3325 E. Orange Grove Blvd.

March 3 - April 30

## ON THE COVER

Cover Art this month was painted by **Monica Homer**

## SCHOLARSHIP

### MVAL 2025 Scholarships Winners

The Mid Valley Arts League has provided scholarships and grants to high school students and teachers since it began. This is part of the mission of our organization, to encourage high school students to continue to pursue their interest in fine art by providing scholarships for their college career. Here are a few examples of student work from this year's scholarship winners.

This year MVAL will be awarding three scholarships to seniors at Maranatha High School who will be pursuing art careers. Click an image to see a larger version of their art.

**Seyoon Kim will receive \$500**

Seyoon is an incredible artist. She has won numerous art competitions and most recently was accepted to Yale.



**Hannah Horan will receive \$250**

Hannah is a wonderful student who has been involved in Painting and Drawing, Ceramics, Graphic Design, and Yearbook. She is a thoughtful, patient, and hardworking student who encourages all of the students around her.



**Kate Chiasson will receive \$250**

Kate is a very talented artist. Quiet, diligent, and committed to her craft.



# THURSDAYS IN PLEIN AIR

---

To confirm or ask questions Call Lynne Fearman cell: (626) 372-6077  
Bring lunch or take a chance there will be a place to buy.

If you are on Facebook, join the  
"Thursdays in Plein Air" Facebook Page.

The Facebook page will keep you updated on any changes and connected with the other painters!

Meet at the designated location at 9:00am and paint till 12:00.  
At noon we gather for lunch and sharing of sketches and paintings. After lunch is the critique/share.  
The critiques are informative and instructional. In the event of rain the paint-out will be canceled.

We have done our best to give accurate directions.

Since we are based in San Gabriel, our directions stem from there.  
It is each person's responsibility to carry a map, GPS, or double check direction.

Bring a folding chair, hat, bug spray, and umbrella if you have one.

We will cancel in case of rain or very high heat.

## **APR 10th - Monterey Hills Overlook**

4501 Via Marisol St. 90042 in Monterey Hills.  
Wonderful views of mustard flowers on Elephant Hill Open  
Space as seen from Via Marisol street overlook.  
Park on the right side of the street.  
Bring lunch.  
No restrooms.

## **APR 17th - The Old Mill,**

Opens at 10:00 am. 1120 Old Mill Road, San Marino, 91108.  
Historic building with gardens & gallery. Park along street.  
Walk up drive way. Gate entrance on right. Bring lunch.

## **APR 24th - Descanso Gardens**

1418 Descanso Dr, La Canada, Flintridge, 91011  
Botanical garden. Opens at 9 am. Fee at entrance gate.  
Open to paint anywhere inside.  
Meet later & have lunch at patio/cafe around 12 noon.

## **MAY 1st - Desiderio Neighborhood Park.**

10 N. Arroyo Blvd. Pasadena, 91105  
Exit 134 Fwy at Orange Grove. Go thru intersection to Holly  
St. Turn left on S. Arroyo Blvd. Park is located on the left side  
right under Colorado St. Bridge. Parking & restrooms inside.  
Can also park on Westminster Dr. and enter on the south  
end. Orange Poppies are a favorite to paint

## **MAY 8th - LA Arboretum**

301 N. Baldwin Blvd, Arcadia, 91007.  
LA County Arboretum & Botanic gardens.  
Fee at gate.  
Meet at Peacock Cafe at 12 noon for lunch.

## **MAY 15th - Arlington Gardens**

275 Arlington Dr, Pasadena, 91105  
Exit 210 or 134 Fwys at Orange Grove. Travel south to  
Arlington Dr. and turn left. Park along street. Garden is on  
the corner of Arlington Dr. & Pasadena Ave. Portable toilet  
on grounds.

## **MAY 22nd - Lacy Park**

1485 Virginia Rd. San Marino  
From Huntington Dr. turn north on Virginia Rd. Park entrance  
on left. Meet near Memorial around 9 am. Bring lunch

## **MAY 29th - Tournament of Roses House**

Wrigley Mansion 391 S. Orange Grove Blvd. Pasadena, 91184  
Exit 134 Fwy at Orange Grove and turn south.  
Historical mansion and rose gardens.  
Park along street.

# 2025 MVAL Scholarship Online Auction

April 14 - April 30 2025

<https://new.biddingowl.com/MidValleyArtsLeague>



The scholarship auction will be an interactive online silent auction. The Auction will begin at 1:00pm on April 14, 2025 and end at 1 pm on April 30, 2024. Bids are time-stamped, if there is a tie, first in wins. The auction is open to all bidders. MVAL is using the BiddingOwl online auction site for this year's scholarship auction. **Three steps to participate:**

## Step 1 (Bidder Login)

**Register as a bidder:** Click the button below. Then click the blue **Bidder Login** button at the top of the page. Follow the directions to register as a bidder, so we have your contact information. Then view the awesome artwork on the site and go to step 2 and **Bid!**

## Step 2 (Bid)

**Place a Bid!** On the auction site, click the **View Items** link to view the amazing art. Click the **Bid** button to make a bid at the current bid price. **Note: you cannot place a bid until after April 14 at 1 PM.** **Note:** If you get outbid, you will receive a text message or email message, warning that you have been outbid. If you want to increase your bid, click the link in the message or click the link below to return to the auction.

## Step 3 (when over)

**When the auction is over (April 30)** if you are the winning bidder, you will receive an email providing the information you need to complete your purchase(s). Payment can be made in cash, credit card or check at pickup. The art pickup will be in Burbank, CA on Friday, May 2nd or Saturday, May 3rd. Check your email for complete information.

## NEW MEMBER

### Roswitha Zunder Glendale, CA

Roswitha retired from a professional career in finance.

She has been attending John Byram's Fresh & Loose Watercolor class since 2023. Her medium is watercolor. She enjoys gardening and painting and also plays accordion in an Accordion Orchestra.

Joining MVAL, Roswitha hopes for motivation, inspiration and ideas for other artists.