

CONTACT:

Rina Thaler

The Art League of Ocean City

Ocean City Center for the Arts

rthaler@artleagueofoceancity.org

410-524-9433

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Six new shows open on First Friday at the Ocean City Center for the Arts
with a free public reception on September 6**

OCEAN CITY, MD — *August 30, 2019* — Six new art exhibitions including a juried show by members of the Maryland Federation of Art fill the galleries of the Ocean City Center for the Arts during September.

The public is invited to the free opening reception at the Arts Center on 94th St. bayside on First Friday, Sept. 6, from 5 to 7 p.m. to meet the artists and enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres. The shows will run until Sept. 28.

The Maryland Federation of Art runs the MFA Circle Gallery in Annapolis, the oldest continuously-operating non-profit gallery in Maryland, with more than 2,300 current and former members. The Federation invited all of their member artists residing in the United States, Puerto Rico, Canada and Mexico to enter both 2D and 3D art into its first “MFA @ Ocean City” competition. Elizabeth Kauffman, Assistant Professor of Art and Galleries at Salisbury University, will jury the show, selecting the best works for the exhibition that will hang in the Thaler Gallery.

A weekend pop-up exhibit features the photography of Ocean City’s international J1 students who worked in the resort for the season and

captured local scenes through their global lens. The free exhibit opens on First Friday and continues Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 7-8, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Previews at #j1photoshow.

An all-media Art League members group show, themed “Out of the Blue,” will hang in the Galleria during September. Sculpture by Salisbury University students that previously was on display on the grounds of ArtX will be on exhibit in the courtyard.

Gwen and Don Lehman of Ocean Pines display their artwork in the Spotlight Gallery in a show titled, “In Lehman’s Terms.” Don will exhibit his photographs, inspired by the way light enters a room and creates patterns, as well as painted panels representing light and shadow. Gwen will exhibit her paintings defined by her feelings of what is emerging as she paints using brushes, brayers, sponges, wadded paper towels, sprayed water, and ink. Sales from this exhibit will benefit the “Friends of Gwen Freeman Lehman Scholarship Fund” awarded annually to Stephen Decatur High School theatre students pursuing advanced education in the dramatic arts.

Kerry Doran of Frederick, Md. creates both fine art and illustration mostly in traditional media. She earned a BFA in illustration from Savannah College of Art & Design and majored in art at Montgomery College. In her fine art pieces, she explores realism, abstract-expressionism, and sometimes surrealism. Within the illustration sphere, she prefers working in conceptual, literal, narrative, and representational styles.

Svetlana McCoy-Rusanova of Linden, NJ is the Art Center’s artisan for September. In creating jewelry, she draws inspiration from the beauty and energy of natural stones and other natural materials (amber, pearls, etc.), as well as from her experience as a gardener and flower arranger. The artist uses the best that nature has to offer and transforms it into something useful, multi-functional, and even more beautiful.

Admission is always free to the Ocean City Center for the Arts at 502 94th Street, home of the Art League of Ocean City, a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing the visual arts to the community through education, exhibits, scholarship, programs and community art projects. Financial support comes primarily through membership dues from individuals and corporate sponsors.

More information is available at 410-524-9433 or www.artleagueofoceancity.org.

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EDITORS: TWO PHOTOS ARE ATTACHED BY J1 STUDENT DANIEL HUBNER OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC.

Elaine Bean
Publicity & Marketing Coordinator
Art League of Ocean City
Ocean City Center for the Arts
cell 443-944-3398