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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ART LEAGUE OF OCEAN CITY ANNOUNCES NEW  
IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL ART EXHIBITS OPENING JULY 3**

**OCEAN CITY, MD — June 26, 2020** — The Art League of Ocean City presents the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Beverly Bassford Memorial Juried Show online and in the galleries at the Ocean City Center for the Arts in July. Juror Christy Cox, gallery coordinator for Salisbury University, selected Leo Kahl of Fallston, Md. and Ocean View, De. as the Best in Show winner 2020.

The traditional First Friday art opening and happy hour again moves online for July with live streaming of the new exhibits on Facebook Live beginning at 5 p.m. on July 3. Selected works will also be available to view on the Art Leagues website - [ArtLeagueOfOceanCity.org](http://ArtLeagueOfOceanCity.org)

The Beverly Bassford Juried Show is an annual memorial event named for a former Art League of Ocean City board member who was passionate about the need for a new art facility, a passion realized in the Ocean City Center for the Arts. After her death in 1999, Bassford's family established a prize in her name that grew into the annual memorial show, featuring fine art by local and regional artists and awards still sponsored by Bassford's family.

To celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the show and to honor the legacy of Beverly Bassford, the Arts Center will exhibit the show building-wide in

both the Thaler Gallery and Galleria to view in person. “We want to remind everyone that our doors are open for regular hours, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m., and weekends from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and that we are practicing CDC guidelines,” Rina Thaler, executive director of the Art League, said. “The Arts Center on 94<sup>th</sup> St bayside is spacious indoors with two floors and an outdoor waterfront area where folks gather to watch the sunsets. It’s a wonderful and safe place to visit in person.”

Bassford’s family has recorded a video about her life and art and dedication to the Art League. The video will be included in the virtual First Friday opening and posted later for viewing.

A new virtual exhibition also opens on First Friday in collaboration with the Clay Guild of the Eastern Shore featuring contemporary ceramic artists from across the region. Marie Cavallaro and Ernest Satchel are exhibit jurors.

Richard Segars displays his paintings in Studio E and during July. Originally from Texas where he received a Master of Architecture degree, he spent 22 years as a historical architect with the National Park Service. Segars currently lives and paints in Berlin, and his paintings of Assateague Island National Seashore are featured in this show.

The in-person and online Spotlight Gallery features photographic prints by L. Patrice Farina of Lewes, De. The artist creatively arranges live flowers and other props into whimsical scenes, and then photographs them for display.

Dot Truitt in the Artisan Showcase, a member of the Clay Guild of the Eastern Shore, loved coloring books and Esther Williams bathing caps as a child, and these plus Cirque du Soleil have influenced her work. Truitt uses high-fire stoneware clay and low-fire glazes to make objects for the

home, including fan pulls, finials for lamp shades, bottle stoppers, and bells shaped like animals.

*The Art League of Ocean City is 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](http://www.artleagueofoceancity.org).

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Image of Leo Kahl painting attached.

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