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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FREE FIRST FRIDAY ART OPENING IS SEPT. 2 AT
THE OCEAN CITY CENTER FOR THE ARTS**

OCEAN CITY, MD — *Aug. 26, 2022* — The Art League of Ocean City invites the public to a free in-person First Friday opening reception on Sept. 2 from 5-7 p.m. at the Ocean City Center for the Arts, 94th St. bayside.

The Thaler Gallery exhibits the collective art of the Working Artists Forum in September. Launched in 1979 by a small group of artists, the Forum – with more than 100 members – is today a thriving arts organization with vital connections within the arts community. Forum members exhibit widely, win awards, teach classes and workshops, and actively participate in arts events throughout the region.

The “Artists Paint OC” plein air exhibit and sale continues in The Galleria through Oct. 1. The exhibit represents the work of 49 artists who painted iconic scenes of Ocean City and the surrounding area during mid-August.

Laurie Fields of Selbyville, De. occupies Studio E in September. A mixed media artist and former studio artist at the Torpedo Factory Art Center in Arlington, Va., Fields is intrigued by a diversity of materials and imagines how they will work together. “A walk down the aisles of Home Depot can be as inspirational as watching a sunset,” she said. Fields scavenges through used things to blend them into provocative new visual experiences.

Watercolorist Wendy Cossman exhibits her paintings in the Spotlight Gallery in September. Cossman has resided in Potomac, Md. for over 40 years and has always been involved with multimedia crafts, painting, and writing. She received her BS in nursing from the University of Michigan and has studied watercolor for over 30 years. Cossman has taught art to preschoolers, group lessons at women’s retreats, Zoom lessons, and private art classes.

Carla Schaeffer of West Cane Mav. NJ is the artisan in residence for September. Her unique

found-art mosaic floral bouquets, ceramics, and jewelry are a visual illustration of the things that make her happy. An avid recycler/re-user/re-claimer, Schaeffer enjoys piecing things together and often uses vintage materials. Her love of anything floral and botanical is reflected in her mosaic assemblages and ceramic pieces.

The exhibit of paintings by Francisco Madera as well as the collaborative mural with Ian Postley continues in the Staircase Gallery.

Offsite exhibitions continue at the Art League's satellite galleries in North Ocean City. The main lobby gallery at the Princess Royale Oceanfront, 9100 Coastal Hwy. continues an exhibit of paintings by Maggii Sarfaty. The Coffee Beanery on 94th St. continues a show of macrame wall hangings by Beth Deeley.

Refreshments at the Arts Center are sponsored by PKS Investments. All shows will be on display until Oct. 1. More information is available at www.ArtLeagueofOceanCity.org or by calling 410-524-9433.

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. Funding for this event is in part provided by the Worcester County Arts Council, Maryland State Arts Council and the National Endowment of the Arts, organizations dedicated to cultivating a vibrant cultural community where the arts thrive.

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