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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FREE FIRST FRIDAY OPENING ON OCT. 7 FEATURES  
ARTS CENTER-WIDE EXHIBIT AND ARTISAN  
MARKETPLACE**

OCEAN CITY, MD — *Sept. 30, 2022* — The Art League of Ocean City announces a special building-wide art show at the Ocean City Center for the Arts on 94<sup>th</sup> St. bayside with the theme “Assemblage Required.” An artisan marketplace will also be offered at the Arts Center on First Friday featuring hand-crafted original artwork in many mediums. The public is invited to the free event on Oct. 7 with special extended hours from 5-8 p.m.

Curated by Berlin artist Deborah Rolig, the “Assemblage Required” show will fill the galleries with artwork exploring the theme of “one person’s trash is another person’s treasure.” This is the fifth annual show Rolig and her sister, Diane Gray, also of Berlin, have curated for the Art League, exploring themes of identity, gender, and empowerment.

“ ‘Assemblage Required’ is a show I’ve wanted to curate for years,” Rolig said. “I love the layering, constructing, and the ‘hunt’ for just the right piece. This technique invites the viewer to look at a piece from another angle or to fantasize what the ‘story’ is behind the seemingly random objects that have come together to create a work of art. It’s just another way to express ourselves as artists and satisfy the need to connect and communicate with other humans through art.”

The Thaler Gallery will feature artwork by Rolig and Gray along with Raye Gillette, Garry Moore, Jason Lyons, Janice Elder, Becky Ilgen, Jeff Auxer, and Felicia Belair-Rigdon. The Galleria will host an open group show of 3D assembled art, both free standing and hung, judged by Rolig.

To make the exhibit interactive, Rolig and Gray have designed a collaborative art installation where guests can leave their “key words” - words that hold meaning for the viewer. Keys of all shapes and sizes will fill a wall, along with visitors' words, creating a large-scale assemblage.

To accompany the “Assemblage Required” exhibit, Dr. Judy Pierson will discuss “Loving the Mosaic That Is You” in a free lecture at the Arts Center on Oct. 18 at 7 p.m.

Studio E will feature a special exhibit of artwork that is part of a joint project entitled “Stigma Highlighted: Portraits of Recovery,” designed to challenge misconceptions and negativity towards individuals battling addiction. The program is sponsored by the Giving Spirit Foundation, Worcester County Health Department, Worcester Goes Purple, Talbot Goes Purple, and the Art League of Ocean City.

The Art League also opens two new offsite exhibits in October. Pat Fecko of Millville De. will be showing her watercolors and mixed media using paper quilling at the Coffee Beanery on 94<sup>th</sup> St. and Coastal Hwy. Golie Miamée of Ocean City will exhibit her international photographs in the lobby of the Princess Royale, 9100 Coastal Hwy.

Refreshments at the Arts Center are sponsored by PKS Investments. Arts Center shows will be on display until Oct. 29; satellite shows, until Dec. 31. More information is available at [www.ArtLeagueofOceanCity.org](http://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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EDITORS:Exhibition graphic created by Diane Gray attached.

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