

CONTACT:

Rina Thaler

The Art League of Ocean City

Ocean City Center for the Arts

rthaler@artleagueofoceancity.org

410-524-9433

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**June's First Friday opens six new shows at the Ocean City Center for the Arts,
including Clay Guild marketplace and youth exhibits**

OCEAN CITY, MD — May 26, 2023 — The Art League of Ocean City invites the public to six new art shows opening on First Friday, June 2, 5-7 p.m., at the Ocean City Center for the Arts, 94th St. bayside. Admission is free with complimentary beverages sponsored by PKS Investments.

The Thaler Gallery hosts an exhibition by Laura Era, owner and curator of the Troika Gallery in Easton, Md., entitled "People & Places." Era is an award-winning, professional portrait and landscape artist and teacher. Basically self-taught, she considers herself an artist since the cradle. Era has painted multitudes of portraits on commission, both formal and informal, in oil and pastel. Her works hang in collections throughout the United States and Europe. She is a member of the Portrait Society of America, the Maryland Society of Portrait Painters, the Maryland Pastel Society, the Working Artist Forum, and the Academy Art Museum. Era will judge the 2023 Artists Paint OC Plein Air Event in August.

A group show entitled "Drawings" fills the walls of the Sisson Galleria in June. The exhibit celebrates artwork created in graphite, colored pencil, charcoal, crayon, markers, and ink. Edward Brown, associate professor at Salisbury University, will select the winners and award cash prizes.

Studio E features the annual Clay-a-Palooza show, displaying fun and functional ceramics created by the Clay Guild of the Eastern Shore. Founded in 2005, the Clay Guild serves the southern part of the Eastern Shore with

members in Maryland, Delaware, and Virginia. Work shown includes hand-crafted, one-of-a-kind ceramics made by local potters. A Clay Guild marketplace will also be open during First Friday featuring vendors offering their original clay creations.

Doris Glovier of Pocomoke City, Md. is the Spotlight Gallery artist for June. Her favorite genres are portraiture and figural works as well as nature studies in oils and watercolor. She teaches oil and watercolor painting in her studio and occasionally holds workshops at the Delmarva Discovery Museum in Pocomoke City. Glovier serves on the board of the Worcester County Arts Council and is a member of The Working Artists Forum, a group for professional artists, in Easton, Md.

Ginny Barney of Lewes, De. shows her artwork in the Artisan Showcase in June. A self-taught artist, Barney's focus is paper in all forms. She turns cigar boxes into objects of art, embellished with knobs and metal feet. She also makes one-of-a-kind art journals as well as collages, acrylic paintings, and all-occasion greeting cards.

The artwork of Emil Markulis continues showing in the Staircase Gallery.

A weekend pop-up exhibit features artwork by Worcester County middle and high school students for the Lower Shore Addiction Awareness Visual Arts Competition. Sponsored by the United Way of the Lower Eastern Shore, the show places an emphasis on hope and maintaining recovery. The show is one-weekend only, June 2-4.

On First Friday, the Art League will announce its 2023 scholarship winners, continuing its support of local students who are seeking a higher education in the arts. Since the Art League first began granting scholarships in 1991, they have awarded 75 scholarships to date.

Art shows at the Art League's satellite galleries continue through June. Karen Hutchison exhibits her work at the Coffee Beanery on 94th St. and Coastal Hwy. Cindy Beyer's show of paintings continues in the Princess Royale lobby, 9100 Coastal Hwy.

The Art League of Ocean City is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting artistic expression and appreciation for the creative arts in our community through education, exhibits, scholarship, programs, and community art projects. Funding is provided in part 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.

###

EDITORS: Photo attached of Laura Era.

Elaine Bean
Art League of Ocean City
Publicity & Marketing Director
elaine@artleagueofoceancity.org
cell 443-944-3398



