

CONTACT:

Rina Thaler

The Art League of Ocean City

Ocean City Center for the Arts

rthaler@artleagueofoceancity.org

410-524-9433

Oct. 9, 2026

TO THE EDITOR:

On behalf of the Art League of Ocean City, thank you to everyone who made this year's "An Evening in Rivendell: pARTy of the Year" a wonderful success. The mystical evening was filled with fun and surprises at the Hobbit Restaurant in Ocean City and supported the 63rd anniversary of the Art League, helping our nonprofit continue our community outreach programs.

Thank you to the more than 120 guests who attended to support the arts. Our An Evening in Rivendell committee did an outstanding job of coordinating the occasion and creating sparkling décor and live entertainment. The committee includes chair Courtney Blackford, and members Jamie Albright, Jessica Bauer, Pam Bennett, Jessica Meehan, Eileen Stamnas, and Rina Thaler.

Our heartfelt appreciation also goes out to our party sponsors. At the Gandalf level: Atlantic Planning & Development, Bank of Ocean City, Candy Kitchen Shoppes, Jack Burbage Foundation, Robert W. Nock Insurance Agency, Patti & Jerry Selig, and Sandy & Palmer Gillis/ Pansy Tong & Scott Allen/ Jan & Jim Perdue/ Randy & Debbie Day. At the Bilbo level: Jamie and Jeff Albright, Marian Bickerstaff, Kirby's Pub, Barbara Patrick, Mary Beth Tighe and Brad Reese, and Gayle Widdowson.

At the Fellowship level: E. Patrick McDermott. At the Shire level: Crystal Collins.

Our gratitude goes out to our hosts, the Hobbit Restaurant, and our generous in-kind sponsors: Candy Kitchen Shoppes, Innerbloom Floral, Gregory Poulos Photography, and Sylvie Rose Floral Designs. We are also thankful to the Lower Shore Performing Arts Company for bringing such wonderful live entertainment to the celebration. Special thanks go to Sally Hendon on flute, Emily Cook on violin, and Patricia Rose on cello for sharing their musical talents, as well as OC Pipes and Drums for welcoming guests with their lively performance as they entered the venue.

And to those many artists, local companies, private individuals, and organizations who donated to our auction, thank you for your generosity and your creative spirit.

Our \$5,000 raffle for the trip of a lifetime or cash, sponsored by Oasis Travel, was won by Rita Mannion. Thank you to all of those who purchased a raffle ticket.

The board and staff of the Art League are grateful to the many members of the community who came together in support of the arts.

Rina Thaler
Art League Executive Director

Courtney Blackford
pARTy of the Year Committee Chair

Jessica Bauer
Art League Development Director

Art League of Ocean City
Ocean City Center for the Arts