
VMFA
*Council
Connections*

9.18.23

A Great Start to a New Year!

Dear friends,

Following our exciting Council event last Monday, MaryMoss, Barb, Kathleen and I have received SO MANY words of appreciation and enthusiastic comments from everyone we have come across personally and in lots of emails! We are thrilled to hear these wonderful responses and to learn about such positive experiences! It was such a pleasure to have Dr. Susan Rawles and Elizabeth Locke with us! It was so great to have twenty-five VMFA staff members, past Presidents, new and returning Council members, Honorary members, and guests join us as we began an exciting new year with The Council. A special thanks to Janet Heltzel and her team who truly outdid themselves designing the gorgeous floral table arrangements!

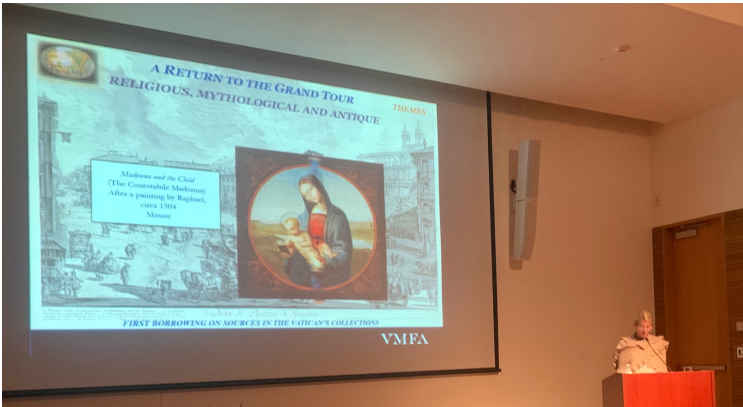
In addition, with our beautiful new Council Handbook/Directory being finally delivered that day and the following, more accolades have been shared from Council members and VMFA Staff about how much they like it. The cover is beautiful with Gabie Frazier's Hirschler flower arrangement! Please take time to settle in with all the good info included in The Council Handbook and benefit from its comprehensive format. Again, hats off to Suzy Szasz Palmer for her management of this project!

Such an event like this would never be successful if it were not for ALL Council members' contributions and commitments!

It's such a pleasure to volunteer for VMFA with each of you.

Warmest wishes to all,

Nan Boyd
President, The Council of VMFA



Lecture Luncheon – September 11, 2023



VMFA Shop Special Events

Please bring your badge and come by the shop the weekend of October 13 – 15. The VMFA Shop will be offering the following special Council discounts and a preview of Holiday products.

Council Discount/Raffle

- 20% discount will run from Friday, October 13 - Sunday, October 15 (exclusions apply) both in-store and online. Online code will be provided closer to event.
- Spend \$50 after the discount, show your badge and be entered into a raffle. The raffle will be 5 gift bags with VMFA products, including Caspari.

Show your badge and the shop will reprint eligible receipts, record your name/phone numbers during the event, draw for winners the following week and contact winners.

Holiday Sneak Peek

Katie Carr, Shop Manager, will be set up in the library alcove on Saturday, October 14 and on Sunday, October 15 from 11:30 am – 2 pm with a sneak peek at holiday items, themes, and details on upcoming pop-up events. Katie will also be glad to answer any questions you may have about the the VMFA Shop. This area will be Council exclusive and not open to the public.



Vivian Driskill Pop-up

Vivian Driskill was always creative, yet didn't find her niche until 2007 when a passion for jewelry design was born. Her work represents how elements relate to each other. The fusion of found objects and fabricated components create a narrative statement unique to each piece. She appreciates vintage elements for their patina, timeless qualities and the stories she imagines they can tell. Originally from Michigan, Vivian currently resides in Williamsburg, Virginia, where she balances life with her husband.



- **Vivian will be in the shop Friday, October 13 - Sunday, October 15**
- **Council discount will apply to the pop-up.**



Many thanks to the Council volunteers who assisted with the very successful Family Day - ***Celebrate the Art of Latin America: Colombia!*** on September 9 at VMFA!

Leah Blachman
Jane Carlson
Millie Green
Deanna Maneker

Nikki Nicholau
Julie Scott
Michele Surat
Abby Winship





Upcoming MEP Events

Fall has arrived and the MEP Committee is busy planning trips and events for the remainder of 2023.



**Wine Seminars/Tastings with VMFA
Sommelier Nikia Lemaire,
Certified Sommelier | WSET Level 3 in Wines
Thursday, October 19 OR October 26, 2023
4:00 - 5:30 PM
Birch Douglass Room, behind Amuse
 **WSET** Cost: \$47.00**

We are pleased to offer a new program we hope you will enjoy!

Join us for a Sensory Wine Experience, where our Level 3 Sommelier, Nikia Lemaire, will guide you through the art of tasting wine and building the muscle memory of your senses. The event will be an entertaining and educational seminar showcasing 5 different wines while taking a detailed look at flavors and aromas to better understand how we experience them. Compare and contrast key wine notes with what is in nature. Explore sights, aromas, and flavors of wine beyond just the simple look, smell and sip of casual wine drinking. Ticket price includes instruction, materials, wine tasting and light hors d'oeuvres.

Registration opens September 19, 2023.

- **The event is for Council members only and is limited to 25 participants, with a minimum of 10 participants required.**
- **The deadline to register for October 19 is October 11, no refunds after October 10.**
- **The deadline to register for October 26 is October 18, no refunds after October 17.**

Explorations in Charlottesville with Visits to the Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection and the Workshop of Gabriel Ofiesh Jewelry

Monday, October 30, 2023

8:30 am to 5:30 pm

Price TBD

Registration information:

- The trip is limited to 45 participants. A waiting list will open once the trip is full.
- The deadline to register is October 19 and payment is due by October 20. No refunds will be issued after October 18.

Registration opens September 26, 2023.

Enjoy a day trip to Charlottesville to explore the Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection of the University of Virginia, the only museum outside of Australia dedicated to the exhibition and study of indigenous Australian Art. A seated luncheon will be held in the Lower Gallery of The Quirk Hotel. After lunch we will split into three groups and alternate visits to the Workshop of Gabriel Ofiesh Jewelry and the Downtown Mall (We suggest you stop by Caspari while you are there).



FINE ARTS & FLOWERS 2024: HONORARY CO-CHAIRS



Elizabeth Locke and Pamela K. Royall are proud to serve as honorary Co-Chairs for the upcoming Fine Arts & Flowers presented by the VMFA Council next year on October 23-27, 2024. Both are longtime avid supporters of and donors to VMFA and were introduced at the Council's business meeting on September 11, 2023.

Elizabeth Locke is well known as the founder and owner of Elizabeth Locke Jewels that specializes in handcrafted one-of-a-kind pieces, with stores in Boyce, Va., and Manhattan. Her collection of micromosaics were featured in a VMFA exhibition in 2019. Elizabeth and her husband, John Staelin, funded the Elizabeth Locke Associate Curator of American Decorative Arts, and John is a former VMFA trustee and Foundation director.

Pamela K Royall and her late husband, Bill Royall, have been avid collectors of 21st century art and donated many works to VMFA. The Pam and Bill Royall Gallery in the 21st Century Gallery is named for them. Pam serves as head of research for a college enrollment services firm and previously served as a university professor of marketing. She recently concluded her service as the first female board chair for the Virginia Museum of History & Culture and serves or has served on the boards of many cultural and educational organizations.

Please log in to *Volgistics* [here](#) and enter your volunteer hours today!

Thank you!

If you have an article to include in the next issue of *VMFA Council Connections*, please contact Linda Gill (lagill@verizon.net) or Diane Barbour (dbarb9214@aol.com) by noon on Thursday, September 28, 2023.
