
VMFA
*Council
Connections*

2.5.24



Save the Date!

Fine Arts and Flowers 2024 Gala and Preview: *Unfolding Elegance*

Wednesday, October 23, 2024

6:30-9:30pm

Atrium & Marble Hall

Cocktail Attire

Advance purchase of tickets required

*Announcing the Speakers
for
Fine Arts & Flowers 2024*

Ingrid Carozzi

Thurs, Oct 24 at 10am

A graphic designer turned passionate florist, Ingrid was named "Best Florist" in New York Magazine within the same year as founding her event floral design company: Tin Can Studios.

When designing for events and weddings Ingrid brings her creative talent and charm to the entire process, putting together stunning color palettes and eye-catching materials, to tell various carefully composed stories with her arrangements and installs.

She is the author of two floral design books *Flowers by Design*, and *Handpicked* (Abrams). In addition, she has been featured in "New York in Bloom" (Abrams), "Flowers, Art & Design" (Assouline), and "Blooms: Contemporary Floral Design (Phaidon)" a book that features several of the best floral designers in the world. - *Josette Sydnor and Kay Mast* -





Robbie Honey

Thurs, Oct 24 at 2pm

Robbie Honey has been immersed in botanical pursuits since he was a young boy roaming the wild grasslands of Zimbabwe. By the age of seventeen, he was studying horticulture and went on to work in the floriculture trade in Holland and Kenya.

He studied interior design and photography at art school in Cape Town. Moving to London, he trained with a leading floral designer and gained a thorough grounding in event floristry.

Setting out on his own at twenty-five, Hermès was his first fashion client, followed by Dior, Valentino, Armani and Vivienne Westwood, establishing Robbie Honey as an in-demand florist within the fashion industry.

- Josette Sydnor and Kay Mast -

Canaan Marshall

Fri, Oct 25 at 10am

Canaan Marshall best known as the vibrant, young fellow to turn your everyday into elegant.

Perhaps just as notable is the seemingly effortless way he creates and very often makes his fans feel as though they, too, could create something just as wonderful.

His work can be found in the pages of *Southern Living*, *Modern Luxury*, *Flower Magazine*, *Traditional Home*, and *Macon Magazine*. His lineup of sophisticated events includes ADAC's To Live & Dine, Historic Macon Foundation's Design Wine & Dine, and Atlanta Symphony Associates' Decorators' Show House & Gardens opening party. Canaan is also a contestant on Season Two of Full Bloom on HBO Max.

He encourages, "Choose flowers you like; put some love into the preparation, and have fun!" - *Josette Sydnor and Kay Mast* -



Spotlight on Volunteers

Carolyn Neurohr



Carolyn's warm smile immediately makes a visitor feel *welcome to the museum!* She has been volunteering at VMFA for 15 years and is still happy to be here. It all began on a Sunday afternoon with VMFA's Open Studio's initiative; the focus in the studio was for parents and children to learn about a selected work of art and then view the actual work of art in the museum. Carolyn enjoyed the parent participation component just as she had enjoyed it while being a Virginia Preschool Initiative teacher with Richmond Public Schools. Retirement and volunteering carried forth this commitment to parents and teaching. As a School Greeter, she sees teachers arrive with pre-organized museum hunts for their students, or Docents (Tour Guides) join their student groups with clipboards containing student activities and information. Seeing this preparation assured Carolyn that both groups had an organized education plan that would create an amenable experience for the students. Carolyn says "becoming aware and educated about it...that's what the museum is especially about."

Her experience volunteering at the museum has been quite varied over time. For several years, as Committee Chair for Gallery Hostesses, she organized a gracious welcome to the Fine Arts and Flowers Exhibition. Carolyn was responsible for staffing the exhibition galleries with volunteer hostesses throughout the 4-day exhibition; each volunteer served a 2-hour shift, so this was quite an enrollment and an ongoing commitment. She also loved serving on the Gallery Care team and commented, "8:00 AM and it's quiet and calm observing art!" She dusted around the works, inspected closely for any damage, and became very familiar with the works in each gallery. Carolyn greatly appreciates the care given to the museum collection by VMFA Conservation.

In addition to the interaction with VMFA visitors, she continues to enjoy the interaction with other Council members whether by volunteering or touring with the Member Enrichment Program and VMFA. Carolyn also shares tea at Floris at VMFA with her friends, and family, as well as young family members and their friends. Carolyn observes "there is something for everyone...they just have to come."

Carolyn suggests that one way The Council can focus on their Strategic Initiative to "Grow the Council" is by providing potential new members an opportunity to "shadow" current volunteers in areas of interest. This would be an excellent way to determine which areas are appealing and which are the ones new members wish to pursue.

Karen Norsworthy

When Karen came to a Lecture Luncheon as a guest of her best friend, little did she know that VMFA would become a part of her ongoing schedule. Her friend had insisted that Karen would love the museum since she is a painter; her major at William and Mary College was Literature. Once she was at the Lecture Luncheon, Karen realized she belonged in The Council and joined in 2012.

Her working career had begun with teaching 11th grade American Literature. She then achieved a master's degree in administration and supervision. Karen's career in education and advancement for students is long with many achievements, e.g., as the Talented and Gifted Coordinator in Powhatan, she enriched the student experience with visiting art and science lecturers and with the Greater Richmond Area Scholarship Program (GRASP), she helped them attain their scholarship goals.

Organization skills were useful locally in Powhatan community projects such as Junior Women's Club, Christmas Mother (2001), group-sponsored donations, and staffing a concession at the old Raceway, etc. Obviously, at her core she likes working with students and people of different backgrounds and skills and doing important work.

Being a School Group Greeter requires organization skills. Groups can range from 30-300 students accompanied by teachers and parents. The greeters help teachers organize groups in accordance with museum visitor rules. The teachers prepare them very well, however. As a regular on Fridays each month, Karen now greets the school staffs as well as VMFA tour guides as friends and loves visiting with them. School Greeters keep the flow going in different galleries and minimize group overlaps, so the experience is optimized for all the students. Flexibility and organization matter; teaching students a love for art matters. Moreover, as Karen goes through the galleries, she gets ideas for her own impressionist style paintings which then adorn the walls of her daughter's, son-in-law's home and office as well as lucky friends.

Karen is proud to be a member of The Council. She enjoys Member Enrichment programs and brings her neighbors to enjoy the museum. She thinks the Council's Strategic Initiative "To Grow the Council" is achieved by bringing in friends.



Upcoming MEP Events

Mark Your Calendars

Wednesday, March 13, 2024 : Bring a Friend Lecture by Curatorial Assistant Madeleine Dugan - Designing Women: French Art Nouveau and Deco Decorative Arts and Women

This is another wonderful opportunity to introduce The Council to prospective new members. We encourage each current Council member to invite two friends to attend, to learn about The Council and enjoy one of the great benefits of being a Council member!

This talk will focus on women and their role in the decorative arts between 1890 and 1930, with a specific focus on French Art Nouveau and French Art Deco styles. Women served as model and muse for Art Nouveau and Art Deco artists, which will be discussed in this talk through numerous artworks in the VMFA's permanent collection, created by the leading designers at the turn of the 19th century and early 20th century. These rapidly changing times offered new opportunities for women who now had their own disposable incomes and ability to work outside the home. Women were also able to commission artists, become amateur collectors, and be successful artists themselves.

Madeleine Dugan will discuss sculpture, furniture, jewelry, and graphic design in both the Art Nouveau and Art Deco movements with women as subject, maker, and connoisseur.

Come early to visit VMFA's special exhibits or have lunch at Best Cafe or at Amuse and then attend the lecture. After the lecture there will be an optional Tour Services tour.

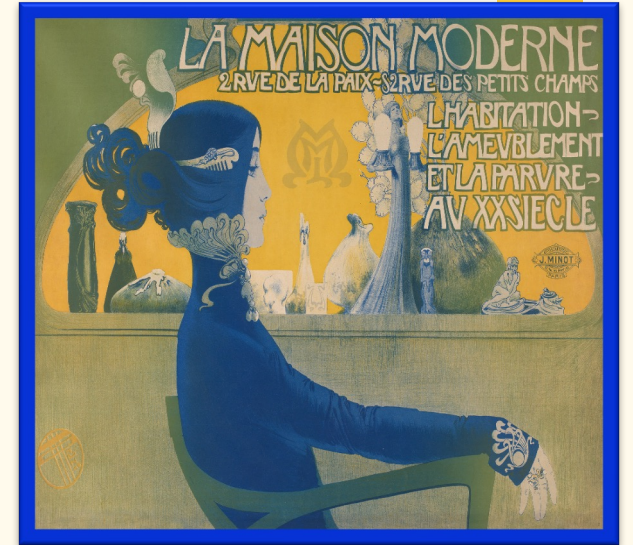
COST: \$15

DATE & TIME: 3/13/24 at 2:00 p.m.

Registration opens February 6 and closes March 10.

LOCATION: Claiborne Robertson Room

MAX: 70 participants





Council-Only French Inspired Wine Dinner
Birch Douglass Private Dining Room, Amuse
March 21, 2024

The MEP Committee is pleased to offer a special opportunity to Council Members for a discounted Council-Only Wine Dinner. A glass of sparkling wine will be available upon arrival as a pre-dinner wine, then each course will be paired with a wine, selected by the front of house team. This means you will have 5 different wines in total with the 4-course meal, crafted by Amuse Chef Will Burgess and his team.

The evening will be guided by one of the managers who will review the dishes and wines in depth for each of the courses.

First Course

Roasted Butternut Squash Soup. Aged Balsamic. Pumpkin Seeds.

Wine: 2021 Macon-Loche 'Les Longues Terres' Chardonnay from Maconnais, Burgundy, France.

Second Course

Chicories Salad. Pickled Kumquat. Fennel. Pistachio. Apple Dijon Vinaigrette.

Wine: 2022 Bernard Baudry Chinon Rose of Cabernet Franc from Loire, France.

Third Course - Choose One

Chicken Chasseur. Roast Chicken Breast. Tomato, Mushroom & Bacon Ragoût. Whipped Yukon Gold Potatoes

OR

Beef Bourguignon. Roasted Carrots. Pearl Onions. Mushrooms. Creamy Polenta.

Wine: 2018 Domaine de Terrebrune 'Terre d'Ombre' Mouvedre blend from Provence, France.

Fourth Course

Chocolate Pâté. Apricot Jam. Brown Butter Crumble. Toasted Almonds.

Wine: NV Domaine Rolet Macvin from Jura, France.

DATE & TIME: Thursday, March 21, 2024,
5:30 PM – 8:30 PM

LOCATION: Birch Douglass Private Dining Room,
Amuse

COST: \$132 (Any payments by check must be received
by March 11.)

MIN: 20 Participants needed to hold this event.

MAX: 30 Participants

Registration opens February 12 and closes March 11.



Greet and Meet New Council Members

January 2024

Sharon Brinkley

Robin Marill-Morgan

Peter Mason

Sharon Morrisey

Kathleen Shaw

Karen Wawrzyn

Online Learning for Council Members

We have begun our spring 2024 tour guide training semester, and as previously discussed with Nan Boyd, we are forwarding the recording links for our curator-led trainings to be shared with Council Members. Below is the link for our training session from January 22, 2024. We received some Gallery Updates from Dr. Ndubuisi Ezeoluomba & Dr. Peter Schertz.

Karen Getty, Senior Tour Services Coordinator

The link to the 1/22/24 Gallery Update recording can be accessed on the Member Info page on the Council website.

Dr. Ezeoluomba discussed the provocative new piece entitled *Pose 2* by a young Congolese artist, Eddy Kamuanga Ilunga, now on view in the Smith Gallery in the Atrium (the "Atrium Niche"). The discussion explores the constant pull between colonialism and modern Africa. Dr. Schertz discussed the new Roman coin collection that is on display in the Ancient Galleries - *Roman History/Roman Coins - the Devil is in the Details*. He explores the history of coinage and the stories told by the images imprinted on the "money" of the day.

These lectures are not on the public VMFA site since they are for tour guide training. However, the Council has asked that the lectures be shared with all Council members and the Museum Education Department has agreed. **Note: These lectures should not be distributed to others who are not Council members.**

Cheryl Ragsdale and Danna Johnson, VMFA Tour Guides

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 Wednesday, February 14, 2024.

Love what you do!

Please log in to Volgistics here and enter your volunteer hours today!

Thank you!