

Dear Frosty,

Welcome to the Louisville Artisans Guild (LAG)! We are very pleased you joined our organization. LAG is a non-profit organization founded in 1956 and we are the oldest artist guild in Kentucky. We are dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in the arts and crafts. The Guild has a variety of activities for you to consider, including general meetings, workshops, studio tours, and craft meetings.

In an effort to keep our members informed on all of the functions throughout the year, we have developed a website, louisvilleartisans.com. We encourage everyone to review the site regularly as well as participate in as many of the activities as possible. There is a “Members” section which contains current Jury Session information, Showcase applications, Annual Exhibit details and a calendar with all LAG events. You will also find our by-laws on the website.

We also publish a bi-monthly newsletter, “The Guild Update.” The newsletter contains information about fairs, exhibits scholarships for craft persons, material promoting arts and crafts on a regional basis, and articles helpful to those interested in arts and crafts. Free advertising space is available to members. Members are also encouraged to submit articles of interest for the newsletter and to share information on exhibits, awards and other successes in your art or craft career.

Each year LAG has a Holiday Showcase. Participants must be LAG juried members. A jury session is held annually for those new members interested in becoming a juried member of the Guild.

An Annual Exhibit is also held each year in a local Gallery. This event is for all members. A member of the local art community who is not a Louisville Artisans Guild member juries exhibitor’s work and determine award winners. The items selected are on display for at least a month. Cash awards, certificates and ribbons are awarded. The Best of Show winner’s artwork is featured the following year on the Annual Exhibit case post card. This is a popular annual event.

The Guild is proud of the scholarship program named after Nelle Peterson, the first president of the Guild. Each year a graduating high school art student is selected for a one-year partial scholarship. As of 2012, seventeen scholarships have been awarded. Members of the Guild raise all of the funds.

A copy of the LAG membership directory is generally available at monthly general meetings or via US mail if requested. Please keep in mind the guidelines adopted by the Board:

Use of Guild Membership List: The Membership list is provided to you for your personal use in contacting other members of the Guild. The guild board has established a fee of \$20 to provide the list to legitimate organizers of festivals, shows and other opportunities that could benefit the membership. All requests for the list must be directed to the President, Membership Chair, or the board. No individual member may give the list or information on the list out.

We are always in need of volunteers. Since we are a non-profit organization, our success depends on volunteers. We need volunteers for Fairs, Juried Show, Newsletter, Scholarship Committee, and at local, state, and national meetings when held in this area. Volunteer opportunities are available for as little as two hours, four hours, and half days, to continuous participation throughout the year. Volunteering provides learning experiences, a chance to meet other members on a personal level, and helps the Guild to provide more services to its members.

If you are interested in volunteering or have questions about any activity, please contact your membership chairman at the phone numbers listed in the directory or on the website or email me back with your area/s of interest & I will forward your contact info to the correct board member.

Please remember that all communications from LAG will be sent electronically whenever possible. Please make sure that your email address is kept current with the membership chair (you can send change notifications to BentFeatherPottery@gmail.com) and that any filters you

set up on your account allow the information to be received by you. Any board or committee member sending information will include LAG as the first entry in the subject line of the email being sent.

We look forward to meeting you as well as working with you throughout your membership.

Looking forward to seeing you.

**Sincerely,
Julie Hagood
LAG Membership Chair**