ART PRESENTATION TOPICS & DESCRIPTIONS

All presentations are researched using scholarly sources, and personally designed, written and delivered by Denise Laurin, artist and art historian. Denise holds an M.A. in art history and has been designated an Advanced Speaker by Toastmasters, International.

The content is delivered in an organized and approachable way. The visuals are thoughtfully designed to support and optimize the content so each person in attendance leaves with a heightened understanding of the topic. Each talk includes a handout for participants and a question/discussion period at the end. Some talks include special add-ons for which estimates are provided upon request.

All presentations are appropriate for adult audiences eighteen and above, and can be scheduled throughout the year, although some fit well for specific holidays or seasons. Denise brings her unique life experiences as a professor of art, design and art history, fine artist, traveler, and former graphic designer to her presentations. Please contact Denise for pricing: denise@deniselaurinvisualart.com.

## AMERICAN ART

AFRICAN AMERICAN ART: FROM OPPRESSION TO FREE EXPRESSION

This presentation explores art that protested slavery in the Antebellum era, harmful art that perpetuated stereotypes, and African American artists who defied these stereotypes. Denise shares highlights from the full flowering of African American art in the 20th century, followed by contemporary examples of African American art. *This presentation is an ideal event for Black History Month in February or any time of year.*

ART AND INDEPENDENCE

This presentation celebrates the 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The content focuses on American art of the Revolutionary Period by Trumbull, Copley, and Gilbert Stuart. Denise closes with a discussion of the transformation of George

Washington from man to myth. *This presentation is an ideal event for the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, or 4th of July in general.*

ARTISTS OF THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE

One of the most creatively expressive eras in American history, The Harlem Renaissance was the first Afrocentric cultural movement in American History. Encompassing literature, music, philosophy, and visual art, this presentation focuses on major visual artists whose work has influenced African American art through the present day. Art historian Denise Laurin spent a month living in Harlem and being inspired by the cultural influences she found there. This talk focuses on the beginning of the Harlem Renaissance in 1917 through the next generation of artists concluding in the 1970s. *This talk can be given throughout the year or during Black History Month in February.*

IMAGINARY JOURNEY TO THE WHITE CITY: CHICAGO'S WORLD COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION

Time travel to 1893 Chicago to the site of the World Columbian Exposition in this sight and sound experience. Through vivid imagery and scholarly research, Denise Laurin, M.A. art history, describes what it was like to actually *be* there. She will focus on the architecture, art, and overall aesthetic of the event and the artists it inspired such as Walt Disney and Frank Lloyd Wright. *Appropriate for any time of year, or specifically May 1- October 30, the time frame of the original fair in 1893.*

SWEET HOME CHICAGO: OUR ARCHITECTURAL GEM

This presentation reveals the events culminating in Chicago's leading role in modern architecture and its place as a rare architectural gem on the international stage today. Art historian Denise Laurin will begin with the birth of the Chicago School and follow Chicago's architectural progress to some of the newest buildings gracing Chicago's magnificent skyline. *This presentation can be given at any time of the year.*

## ANCIENT ART

ANCIENT ORIGINS OF CHRISTIAN ART

Where and when did Christian imagery begin? How did the Christian images that are so familiar to us evolve? In a period when paganism and Christianity coexisted, did older belief systems influence

the new? This presentation seeks to reveal the ancient origins of Christian symbolism and provide a heightened understanding of early Christian art. Denise Laurin will share ancient depictions, some

the earliest ever found, of the Madonna and Child, the Crucifixion, and more. *This presentation can be given at any time of the year or coordinated with major Christian holidays.*

HATSHEPSUT: THE WOMAN WHO RULED AS PHARAOH

Cleopatra may be the most famous woman of ancient Egypt, but far more significant and controversial was Hatshepsut, a rare female pharaoh who presided over Egypt from1479-1458 B.C.E. during the golden age of the New Kingdom. Her unorthodox reign was fully accepted by a flourishing Egypt whose trade routes were expanded and whose artistic creativity is among one of the richest in Egyptian history. In this presentation by art historian Denise Laurin you will learn about this fascinating and powerful woman, her magnificent mortuary temple at Deir el-Bahri, and the rich artistic production she inspired at the Temple of Luxor. *Ideal for Women's History Month or any time of year.*

The AMARNA PERIOD: A REVOLUTION IN EGYPTIAN ART AND RELIGION

For armchair Egyptologists and everyone who is curious about the ancient past, this presentation sheds light on a brief period in Egyptian history in which monotheism was introduced for the first time in human history. Through images of ancient artwork, Denise Laurin will weave a fascinating story of artistic and social revolution, and the King and Queen who led it: Akhenaten and Nefertiti. *This presentation can be given at any time of the year. Special add-on: Write your name in hieroglyphics art project.*

IMAGINARY JOURNEY TO ANCIENT POMPEII—SIGNS OF LIFE

Instead of the tortured casts of bodies caught in the throes of death that we have come to know as representing the unimaginable tragedy of Pompeii, this presentation focuses on the incredible *paradox* that this ancient city was both destroyed *and* preserved, providing evidence of the everyday life of Pompeii in its original context. Presenter Denise Laurin, M.A. Art History, leads guests on an imaginary walking tour of selected locations and relevant objects unearthed at the site to gain an understanding of the way ancient Pompeians lived rather than how they tragically died. Referencing the latest scholarship, she will endeavor to answer the question, "*What was daily life like in Pompeii before the eruption*?" *This presentation can be presented any time of year.*

MYTH AND MYSTERY IN THE MURAL PAINTINGS OF ANCIENT POMPEII

Myth and Mystery delves into two fascinating frescos unearthed over one hundred years apart at Pompeii— the murals at The Villa of the Mysteries discovered in 1909, and The House of Thiasus, recently unearthed and announced to the public in February 2026. These murals provide insight into the ancient initiation rites of the cult of Dionysus. What exactly went on during those fabled Bacchanalia? Denise Laurin, M.A. Art History brings to light the evidence provided by these rare murals in a discussion of Pompeiian painting styles, the Cult of Dionysus, and a comparison of the two fresco cycles. *This talk can be given throughout the year.*

## ART APPRECIATION

ARTISTIC "ISMS" OF THE 19TH CENTURY

During the 19th century, Western artists began to experiment as the result of social, political and technological upheavals. The art world was splintered into various "isms," or a vast array of styles. In this presentation, art historian Denise Laurin provides clues for recognizing the styles listed below. *This talk can be given throughout the year.*

- Neoclassicism
- Romanticism
- Realism
- Impressionism
- Post Impressionism

DECODING MYSTERIOUS MEANINGS: HIDDEN SYMBOLS IN ART

How do we *read* a work of art? Is there more than meets the eye? There are symbols in today's culture that we recognize at a glance, like corporate logos, which need no explanation. This is true of the past, too, when painters incorporated a vast vocabulary of symbols that were readily understood by viewers living at the time, but whose meaning is lost to 21st century eyes. They are integral components of the work of art, and if we are unable to decode their mysterious meanings, we cannot fully comprehend the narrative. In this presentation, art historian Denise Laurin will unravel

the hidden meanings behind a select group of masterworks. *This presentation is appropriate for any time of year.*

THE MANY WAYS TO LOOK AT ART

Walking into a museum or gallery can be intimidating, but when we understand the language of art–the visual elements and the principles of design–our experience is greatly enhanced. In this discussion of the formal aspects of visual art, art historian Denise Laurin focuses on the tools the artist uses to create memorable works of art. Prepare to feel more knowledgeable the next time you go to an art museum! *This presentation can be given at any time of the year.*

TWENTIETH CENTURY "ISMS"— 1900-1950 The 20th Century was a revolutionary time for art. With so many "isms" or movements, how can we differentiate them? In this presentation, Denise Laurin, M.A. art history, focuses on the most significant artists from this period and provides quintessential examples, artistic qualities, meaning and purpose for the following art movements. *This presentation can be given at any time of the year.*

- Fauvism
- Cubism
- Futurism
- German-Expressionism
- Dada
- Surrealism
- De Stijl
- Abstract-Expressionism

WHAT IS A MASTERPIECE?

In this practical guide, art historian Denise Laurin discusses the criteria that art historians use to determine whether a work of art can be designated as a masterpiece. Several works of Western art that were considered a break from tradition in their day, and even controversial, are featured. The goal of this talk is to stimulate audience members to ask whether objective criteria for judging art

exists, or alternatively, how to determine for ourselves what constitutes a masterpiece. *This presentation can be given at any time of the year.*

## GENERAL INTEREST

ART NOW: THE GLOBAL PRESENT

The globalization of culture has had a profound impact on art. Contemporary art forms forged in the 20th century such as installation, conceptual and performance art have spread around the world. Digital art and AI (artificial intelligence) are new directions that have made an impact on 21st century art as well. In this presentation, we will explore contemporary art from all over the globe that demonstrates the many directions of art today. *This presentation can be given at any time of the year.*

COUNTERCULTURE: THE BEATLES AND ART IN THE 1960s

Because their impact was felt primarily in music, no books *specifically* dedicated to The Beatles and their relationship with the art world of the 1960s exists. In this compelling and meticulously researched visual presentation, Denise Laurin, M.A. art history and life-long Beatlemaniac, takes a rare look at the artistic thread that runs through their story. Denise will connect the dots between film, fashion, drug culture, activism, spirituality and art movements such as pop, psychedelic, and conceptual art with the Fab Four. The presentation includes carefully curated slides, video and sound. *Optional:* Have attendees come dressed in 60s attire. *Special Add-on: Include a raffle for Beatle memorabilia (i.e., mug or poster). Item(s) chosen based on your budget. This discussion is appropriate for any time of year, and especially February to celebrate their appearance on the Ed Sullivan Show, or August to commemorate their last concert in the USA.*

DARK ART: HAUNTING IMAGERY ACROSS TIME

Prepare yourself to experience themes of horror, gore and the supernatural in art. Denise Laurin, M.A., art history will lead the discussion that includes the work of a diverse range of artists and cultures such as Caravaggio, Fuseli, Goya and Redon. She will highlight the contextual circumstances that led these artists to create "dark art." *This presentation is perfect for October or can be presented any time of year.*

HISTORY OF FASHION IN ART

What did people wear before photography documented every aspect of life? We can find answers to this question in the art left behind by these cultures and eras. Often, modern fashion designers are influenced by art, and art and fashion play off each other. In this sight and sound presentation, Denise Laurin, M.A. Art History, reveals how art informs us about fashion from earlier times and how fashion and art intertwine in our modern world. We will look at examples of clothing styles, accessories, jewelry, and even hairstyles in this hour-long walk down the runway of time through fashion. *This presentation is ideal for Fall and Spring and can be presented any time of year.*

HISTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHY

In this "snapshot" of the rise of photography, art historian Denise Laurin will share key scientific discoveries that freed 19th century and modern photographers to explore the medium's full potential as an art form and as a documentary tool for communication and social change. While not a comprehensive history, the presentation contains pivotal images that represent the work of significant individuals in the advancement of the scientific, artistic, and documentary aspects of this most ubiquitous of mediums. *This presentation can be given any time of year.*

REMBRANDT REVEALED

In this presentation, artist and art historian Denise Laurin probes the life of Dutch master Rembrandt van Rijn through his self-portraiture. Why did he produce so many images of himself? What do they tell us about his life experiences? You will see many familiar works and some examples that are less well known from museums all over the world. Each one gives us insight to his development as an artist and his triumphs and tribulations in life. *This presentation can be given any time of year.*

VISIONS OF LOVE

What is love? The ancient Greek language developed specific words to describe its myriad aspects. In this talk, art historian Denise Laurin presents selected works of art that evoke the concept of love in a variety of meanings: contented, unrequited, passionate and eternal love. The examples range from ancient to modern and come from both the Western and Non-Western traditions. *This presentation is ideal for Valentine's Day programming and is appropriate for any time during the year.*

MOVEMENT MEETS MODERNSIM: THE 20th CENTURY AVANT GARDE AND THE BALLET RUSSES

In this presentation, Denise Laurin, M.A. Art History explores the multi-disciplinary collaborations that were forged in the early 20th century between visual artists and the legendary Ballet Russes. The results of these partnerships set the tone for Modernism in the 20th century. Her focus is on key visual artists such as Picasso and Chagall who contributed costumes and set designs, and we will also learn about the innovative choreography and revolutionary musical scores in three productions: The Firebird, Parade, and Rite of Spring whose impact reverberates through the present. *This presentation is appropriate for any time of year and is especially pertinent for dance schools.*

## GUIDED MUSEUM TOURS

GUIDED TOUR: INSIDE THE FABULOUS FRICK MUSEUM

Join art historian Denise Laurin as she leads you on a guided tour of the Frick Collection in New York City. This former mansion of gilded age industrialist Henry Clay Frick just received a $220 million renovation and reopened on April 17, 2025 for the first time in five years. Denise offers you a tour, not only of the art, but the splendor of the sumptuous interiors in which they were originally displayed. This collection, personally curated by Mr. Frick, his wife and his daughter, is renowned for its Italian Renaissance, Dutch Baroque, and Rococo masterpieces. *This presentation is appropriate for any time of year.*

GUIDED TOUR: THE NEUE GALERIE–A TASTE OF VIENNA IN NEW YORK CITY

This small but elegant collection of Viennese art is home to Gustav Klimt's *Adele Bloch-Bauer I*, *The Woman in Gold*. In addition to Austrian Art, the Neue Galerie features an extraordinary collection of German Expressionism. Art historian Denise Laurin discusses highlights of the collection and the history of the gilded age mansion that houses it. *This presentation is appropriate for any time of year.*

## GUIDED TOUR: THE LOUVRE–FROM THE PALACE OF KINGS TO THE LARGEST MUSEUM IN THE WORLD

Whether you have been to the Louvre or not, this presentation is designed to demystify the overwhelming nature of the Louvre. Denise Laurin provides a breakdown of the main wings of the museum, their content and the history of the complex. The museum's *must-see* masterpieces are discussed formally and contextually to illuminate exactly *why* they shouldn't be missed. *This presentation is appropriate for any time of year.*

## GUIDED TOUR: MONA's EYES AT THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

In this unique museum visit, the little heroine of the popular book "Mona's Eyes" arrives from Paris to view selected works from our own Art Institute of Chicago.

Just as in the novel, this presentation features work created over a period of five hundred years from a variety of cultures, genres and media. Some works are familiar favorites, others are "hidden" treasures. Curated by artist and art historian Denise Laurin, this talk provides lessons in how to *really see*, how to view life through the lens of art, and the commonality of us all. *This presentation is appropriate for any time of year.*

## GUIDED TOUR: CHIHULY: RADIANT FORMS AT MEIJER GARDENS AND SCULPTURE PARK

Dale Chihuly is renowned for his innovative work in the medium of glass. Over the span of forty years, he has elevated glass to the level of fine art sculpture. Denise Laurin will lead us on a guided tour of his 2026 installation and retrospective at the Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park, Grand Rapids, MI to experience the otherworldly quality of his work. *This presentation is appropriate for any time of year.*

## IMAGINARY JOURNEYS

IMAGINARY JOURNEY TO ANCIENT POMPEII—SIGNS OF LIFE

Instead of the tortured casts of bodies caught in the throes of death that we have come to know as representing the unimaginable tragedy of Pompeii, this presentation focuses on the incredible *paradox* that this ancient city was both destroyed *and* preserved, providing evidence of the everyday life of Pompeii in its original context. Presenter Denise Laurin, M.A. Art History, leads guests on an imaginary walking tour of selected locations and relevant objects unearthed at the site to gain an understanding of the way ancient Pompeians lived rather than how they tragically died. Referencing the latest scholarship, she will endeavor to answer the question, "*What was daily life like in Pompeii before the eruption*?" *This presentation can be presented any time of year.*

IMAGINARY JOURNEY TO POMPEII—MYTH AND MYSTERY

An extension of "Signs of Life," this presentation once again transports the audience to ancient Pompeii, this time to discover the enigmatic practices of the Cult of Dionysus as revealed through mural paintings at two locations: The Villa of the Mysteries, discovered in 1909, and The House of Thiasus, recently announced in February 2026. Presenter Denise Laurin, M.A. Art History, leads a discussion of Pompeiian painting styles, a history of the Cult of Dionysus, and what has been discovered about the worship of this god of wine, ecstasy and the unrestrained life through these works of art. *This presentation can be presented any time of year.*

IMAGINARY JOURNEY TO GIVERNY: MONET— ARTIST AND GARDNER

For anyone who has never been to Monet's garden and even those who have, this presentation transports attendees to the quaint town of Giverny where so much of Monet's inspiration originated. We will discuss the artist's home and gardens and learn about Monet as both passionate horticulturist and innovative painter. Through a carefully curated visual presentation of photographs, artwork, sound, and virtual tours, Denise Laurin, M.A. art history, will guide attendees to learn about the design of the garden, the plants that grew there, and the artworks they inspired. Optional: *French Pastries and/or French wine tasting. Estimate provided based on number of expected guests. Ideal for Spring, Summer and Fall programming. This presentation can be presented any time of year.*

IMAGINARY JOURNEY TO THE WHITE CITY: CHICAGO'S WORLD COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION

Time travel to 1893 Chicago to the site of the World Columbian Exposition in this sight and sound experience. Through vivid imagery and scholarly research, Denise Laurin, M.A. art history, describes what it was like to actually *be* there. She will focus on the architecture, art, and overall aesthetic of the event and the artists it inspired such as Walt Disney and Frank Lloyd Wright. *Appropriate for any time of year, or specifically May 1- October 30, the time frame of the original fair in 1893.*

## IMPRESSIONISM

IMAGINARY JOURNEY TO GIVERNY: MONET— ARTIST AND GARDNER

For anyone who has never been to Monet's garden and even those who have, this presentation transports attendees to the quaint town of Giverny where so much of Monet's inspiration originated. We will discuss the artist's home and gardens and learn about Monet as both passionate horticulturist and innovative painter. Through a carefully curated visual presentation of photographs, artwork, sound, and virtual tours, Denise Laurin, M.A. art history, will guide attendees to learn about the design of the garden, the plants that grew there, and the artworks they inspired. Optional: *French Pastries and/or French wine tasting. Estimate provided based on number of expected guests. Ideal for Spring, Summer and Fall programming. This presentation can be presented any time of year.*

MONET and the SEA

Before moving to Giverny to focus on his beloved gardens, Monet lived in rural towns such as Vétheuil and Poissy. Between 1878 and 1883, he returned from Paris to the Normandy coast where he was raised and possessed an intimate familiarity. There, the rural landscapes and seascapes of Normandy were his main preoccupation. In this presentation, artist and art historian Denise Laurin takes you to the dramatic vistas that inspired Monet and discusses the development of his Impressionist technique that led to later masterpieces such as his Waterlilies. *This presentation is appropriate any time of year.*

## ITALIAN RENAISSANCE ART

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LEONARDO! In this visual and sound celebration of the life of Leonardo da Vinci, Denise Laurin, M.A. art history, will probe the life circumstances that contributed to making Leonardo *Leonardo.* From his insatiable curiosity to his personal beauty, we will unlock the components of his special genius. Optional: *Birthday Cake. Estimate provided depending on expected attendance. Ideal for April programming, as the Maestro's birthday is April 15.*

THE LAST SUPPER

Art historian Denise Laurin's goal in this talk is to shed light on the origins of the commission for *The Last Supper* by Leonardo DaVinci. She will demonstrate the painting's psychological content as expressed through visual clues such as gesture and facial expression and explore how this Renaissance master achieved his vision through composition and medium. *This presentation is ideal for the Easter season but appropriate any time of year.*

SECRETS OF THE SISTINE

Conspiracy theories abound in the 21st century, but did you know one exists for the making of the Sistine ceiling? Using scholarly sources, art historian Denise Laurin reveals the intrigue behind one of the greatest masterpieces in all Western art in four categories: the characters, the conspiracy, the commission, and the content. Even if you have been to the Sistine Chapel in person, this talk will illuminate your comprehension in a concise and understandable way. *This presentation can be given at any time of the year and can also coordinate with major Christian holidays.*

## NON WESTERN ART

EAST MEETS WEST: CROSS-CULTURAL INFLUENCES

European interest in Non-Western art was first stimulated by trade with the East in the 16th and 17th centuries. By the mid Nineteenth century, many Non-Western approaches to art, including Japanese, Chinese, and African, had found their way into the vocabulary of European art. Similarly, Western approaches to art including linear perspective and spatial volume began to influence non-Western

cultures. In this presentation, Denise Laurin, M.A. art history, will explore prominent examples of this cross-cultural mix of artistic styles and learn how globalism contributed to far-reaching change in the Western art aesthetic. *This presentation is perfect for May (Asian American Month), or any time of year.*

OUT OF AFRICA

In this tour of Africa, Denise Laurin, M.A. Art History leads a discussion of several key cultures located in Northwest, West, Central, East, and Southeast Africa. The focus is on sculpture and architecture throughout the continent. Some of the groups include the Yoruba of Nigeria, the Muslims of Mali, Christians in Ethiopia, and the Shona people in modern day Zimbabwe and South Africa. Denise pays special attention to understanding African art through the lens of African aesthetics. *This presentation can be given during Black History month or any time of year.*

PICTURING THE DIVINE

How do images of the Divine differ among the major religions of our planet? Can representations from other religious traditions inform us and contribute to our own understanding of God? Denise Laurin, M.A. art history will explore the symbolism embedded in artwork from the Hindu, Buddhist, Islamic, and Christian faiths and thereby gain insight into and understanding of belief systems that differ from our own. *This presentation is appropriate for any time of year.*

UKIYO-E THE FLOATING WORLD OF JAPANESE PRINTS

Ukiyo-e literally translates *pictures of the floating world*, which refers to the licensed brothel and theatre districts in Japan's major cities during the Tokugawa period. In this presentation, art historian Denise Laurin transports her audience to the magical confines of the *Yoshiwara* and discusses the history, process, and various genres of Ukiyo-e, including actor prints, beautiful women, and landscapes. *This presentation can be given any time of the year, or during the spring as a celebration of the Cherry Blossom Festival.*

## WOMEN IN ART

### AGAINST ALL ODDS: WOMEN WHO TRIUMPHED IN THE MALE-DOMINATED WORLD OF ART

Women have always been active in the visual arts. For centuries, the men who dominated the discipline of art history often believed women to be inferior artists and did not include them in writings. Join Denise Laurin for this discussion that features a sampling of the gifted women who triumphed over the status quo and who emerged as equals in aesthetic and technical skill, despite the obstacles they were forced to overcome. *This presentation can be given at any time of the year or during March, Women's History Month.*

### A WOMAN'S PLACE IS IN THE MUSEUM: THE RISE OF FEMINIST ART

This presentation explores Feminist art, when it began, how it is defined, and who the most influential artists were and continue to be. The work of Judy Chicago, Cindy Sherman, Barbara Krueger, and other notable changemakers are featured. Despite 20th century efforts, contemporary women artists still face many obstacles such as persistent underrepresentation in museum collections and exhibitions worldwide. We will look at these disparities as well as strides that have been achieved over the last six decades. *This talk is ideal for March, Women's History Month*.

### THE PASSION OF ARTEMISIA

Artist and art historian Denise Laurin celebrates the life of Baroque painter Artemisia Gentileschi (1593-1653) who was the first woman to gain membership in Florence's prestigious Accademia delle Arte dei Disegno and garnered international fame in her own lifetime. Artemisia overcame enormously difficult obstacles in her young life, making her story compelling and triumphant. *This presentation can be given at any time of the year or during March, Women's History Month.*

### THE UNBREAKABLE BOND: PORTRAYALS OF MOTHERHOOD

One of the most prominent subjects in human portraiture is that of the mother and child. The unbreakable bonds of this primary relationship share a universal appeal across many different styles and media. In this exploration of the genre, Denise Laurin will explore sculpture, painting,

printmaking and drawing from a variety of time periods, cultures and artistic approaches. *This presentation is ideal for the month of May to celebrate Mother's Day.*

## KEYNOTE ADDRESSES ON CREATIVITY

Denise Laurin speaks provides inspirational keynote addresses on living creatively to businesses and organizations. While she is a visual artist, her talks inspire creativity in many walks of life from creative professions, service providers, sales staff, and more. Please inquire for pricing.

### ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME: LIVING LONG AND LARGE

In this motivational talk, Denise Laurin, a life-long professional creative shares her unconventional idea of "living large" and stories about people who inspire her by living purposeful, intentional, meaningful and FUN lives. She has found herself in the surprising place of having more meaning, fulfillment and joy than at any other time of her life and will share the keys to living large. This talk is suitable for senior audiences and can be made to appeal to younger audiences as well.

### LIVING CREATIVELY

Is your own creativity the last item on your list? Do you "run out of time" to pursue the things that most bring you to life? In this keynote presentation, life-long professional artist and creativity mentor Denise Laurin demonstrates that your self-expression and creativity are soul-expanding activities that deserve prioritizing Using anecdotes from her own creative journey, she will discuss how to achieve a meaningful, balanced and creative life.

### LIVING CREATIVELY GPS: INTENTIONAL CREATIVE GOAL-SETTING WORKSHOP

This workshop is geared toward people who are interested in living more creative, self-expressive lives. January is ideal for planning the entire year; however this workshop can be given at any time to reap results. This workshop requires a minimum of four-hours but can be customized for a two or three-day comprehensive workshop. Attendees will have time for reflection, writing, and creating their own personalized plan to achieve stated goals. Participants leave with heightened motivation, an expanded sense of self, and concrete tools for making creativity a greater priority in their daily lives.

## ART WORKSHOPS

For the following workshops, artist Denise Laurin demonstrates and provides step-by-step instructions on how to achieve optimal results. After an introductory demo, she interacts with students as they work on their pieces. Please inquire for pricing, supplies, and availability.

- Acrylic Collage Techniques
- Autumn Gourd with Colored Pencils and Watercolor
- Botanical Drawing with Colored Pencils and Watercolor Pencils
- Drawing in Graphite
- Drawing in Charcoal Pencil
- Klimt Gold Leaf Workshop
- Matisse Creative Play with Shapes (Cut Paper)
- Painting the Portrait in Oil
- Traditional Japanese Scroll-making
- Watercolor Butterfly
- Watercolor Dragonfly
- Watercolor Portraits

---

Denise Laurin
Artist, Art Historian, Presenter
Denise Laurin Visual Art www.deniselaurinvisualart.com denise@deniselaurinvisualart.com
917-509-5147

Former Adjunct Professor: Illinois Institute of Art-Chicago, Art Institute of Pittsburgh, Waubonsee Community College, Sugar Grove, IL and Elgin Community College, Elgin, IL; Former AP Art History Instructor, Studio Art and Digital Photography Instructor, The Beekman School, Private College Preparatory High School, New York, NY.

## CLIENTS

Arlington Heights Senior Center

Bartlett Library

Batavia Library

Benedictine University

Cantigny

Cherry Valley Library District

Clarendon Hills Public Library

Des Plaines Public Library

Ela Area Public Library

Geneva Public Library

Glenside Public Library

Hanover Township Senior Center

Lemont Public Library

The Moorings of Arlington Heights

Mount Prospect Library

Northbrook Public Library

North Central College and Columbia College/Self-Employment in the Arts

Orland Park Public Library

Plainfield Public Library

Poplar Creek Library of Streamwood

Putnam County Library District

St. Charles Public Library

The Little Traveler, Geneva

The Moorings of Arlington Heights

The Wheaton Public Library

Town & Country Public Library District