

HISTORY

The Lynchburg Art Club (LAC) is the oldest art organization of its kind on the Eastern coast formed in 1895, under the direction of Bernhard Gutmann. Gutmann, referred to as America's Impressionist, was the first supervisor of art in the Lynchburg Public School System, instructor of art at Lynchburg High School and a professor of art at Randolph-Macon Woman's College. Mr. Gutmann, Mrs. John A. Mahood, and Louise Jordan Smith helped the Club thrive in the early years with exhibitions, classes for members, and opportunities for community participation. We are proud that the tradition of these original goals continues today.

Miss Georgia Morgan joined the LAC in the mid 1920s after studying at Randolph-Macon Woman's College and teaching in the public schools. Miss Morgan invited members to her studio in the fall of 1926, where active participation in the LAC flourished with monthly gatherings and exhibits.

The Lynchburg Art Club incorporated in 1961 and the art house on Rivermont Avenue is handicapped accessible for everyone to enjoy the monthly exhibits in the galleries and classroom space on the second floor. The natural light on the third floor is perfect for studio space.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Each year a high school senior interested in a degree in art is selected from area schools to receive the Shirley D. Hobbs Scholarship Fund totaling \$4,000. Beginning in 2000, proceeds from the Lynchburg Art Festival fund the scholarship.

LYNCHBURG ART FESTIVAL

A long-standing tradition since 1972, the Lynchburg Art Festival is a highly-respected and well-attended celebration of fine art in Central Virginia with over 130 artists participating from across Virginia and surrounding states. The Art Festival happens each September under the magnificent trees at E.C. Glass High School on Memorial Avenue in Lynchburg. Artists and students of the visual arts from area high schools are judged and given awards at the end of the day. Applications are available on our website.



PAINTOUT LYNCHBURG

Starting in 2015, the LAC sponsored its first annual Paintout Lynchburg, a judged, plein air event held in April with artists participating from across the state and regionally, for cash awards. Artists paint on location in the Lynchburg Downtown Arts and Cultural District. The artwork is on display in our May exhibit.



OUR MISSION

To promote and advance art in the Lynchburg community.

To provide means for improving the art work of members of this corporation and other artists.

The Lynchburg Art Club will encourage and acknowledge accomplishments of members and enhance fine art in the Lynchburg area.



EXHIBITION OPPORTUNITIES

Members and regional artists may apply for an exhibition opportunity in our gallery. We have an opening reception on every First Friday of the month, with the gallery open to the public the rest of the month for viewing and purchase of art. The Members Gallery features work of art club members. December is the Christmas Show including artwork, crafts, baked goods and frozen entrees for sale by art club members.

GEORGIA MORGAN ART SHOW

February is the annual Georgia Morgan Civic Art Show held in honor of Miss Georgia Morgan's dedication to the Club and is open to all artists within a 35-mile radius of Lynchburg.

PERMANENT COLLECTION

The LAC has an outstanding Permanent Collection from many of our founding members, including Gutmann. The public can view the Permanent Collection during monthly exhibits or by appointment.

CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

Members and the community have the opportunity to engage in classes and workshops throughout the year. A place to paint and enjoy the encouragement of fellow artists is during open studio on Thursdays from 9am to 3pm.