



ALBANY MUSEUM OF ART

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AMA JANUARY WORKSHOPS FOCUS ON VISUAL VERBAL JOURNALS

Noelle Petersen Will Lead the Saturday Workshops at the Albany Museum of Art

[For Release Jan 3, 2021 – Albany, GA] — Ever have a great idea that later escaped you? You can keep those thoughts at your fingertips with the help of a visual verbal journal.

You can learn how to create and expand a visual verbal journal at a pair of Saturday afternoon workshops in January at the Albany Museum of Art. Noelle Petersen, art teacher at Deerfield-Windsor School, will lead the *Visual Verbal Journal Workshops 2-4 pm* on **Jan 23** and **30** at the museum, located at 311 Meadowlark Drive.

Visual verbal journals focus on to methods of saving information, with drawings, sketches, photos, collages or other visual artwork augmented by words, which also become part of the art. The words describe or explain the art, becoming graphic devices.

"It's a powerful tool for any number of uses," AMA Director of Education and Public Programming Director Annie Vanoteghem said. "Artists keep journals like this for ideas for future works, but they translate into many other areas as well."

Reinforcing images with words—or reinforcing words with images—can help you remember and understand concepts. They can document your explorations and can be invaluable in research projects.

"The visual and verbal cues on a page complement one another, and can provide inspiration for later," Vanoteghem said.

They are ideal opportunities to experiment with new media and techniques, allowing you to venture from your comfort zone. And a journal can be an opportunity to just play and enjoy yourself.

They also serve to preserve memories. "They can be valuable for later reflection on something you saw, heard or felt," she said. "They are a way for you to think about the way you think. You can learn a lot about yourself from your journal."

Participants can participate in both or either workshop. All you need to bring is your journal.

"We'll provide many of the materials needed to create these," Vanoteghem said. "We'll have pencils, pens, markers, color pencils, charcoal, chalk and watercolors available. We'll also have glue, scissors, magazines, newspaper and construction paper."

But those who participate are welcome to bring items that they might want to use as well, such as photographs, magazines, gel pens.

"There are really no rules as to what you can use to create these journals," Vanoteghem said. "You also do not have to be a skilled artist. You're creating your journal for you."

While visual verbal journals are quite different from person to person, she said, they all have one important common characteristic.

"It will be meaningful to you," Vanoteghem said. "At some point, you will be glad you have it."

Each workshop will be limited to 10 participants because of current health guidelines. The cost per session is \$15 for AMA members and \$20 for future members.

To reserve your space at one or both workshops, email Vanoteghem at annie.vanoteghem@albanymuseum.com or call her at **229.439.8400**.

CURRENT AMA EXHIBITIONS

- *On the Wall*: murals by David Hale, Shanequa Gay, Amanda Jane Burk and Chris Johnson, and paintings by Sarah Emerson, is in the Haley Gallery through Feb 20, 2021.
- *Midlands*, works by Courtney McClellan, is in the East Gallery through Feb 20, 2021.
- *Escape Plan*, works by Elinor Saragoussi, is in the West Gallery through Feb 20, 2021.
- *Georgia Artists Guild of Albany 27th Annual Exhibition* is in the McCormack Gallery.

ABOUT THE ALBANY MUSEUM OF ART

The Albany Museum of Art is located at 311 Meadowlark Drive in Albany, Ga., adjacent to Albany State University West Campus just off Gillionville Road. The museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. The Albany Museum of Art is open to the public 10 am-5 pm Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and 10 am-7 pm Thursdays. Admission is free.

For more information about the AMA please visit our website, www.albanymuseum.com or call 229.439.8400. Be sure to follow the @AlbanyArtMuseum on Twitter, AlbanyMuseum on Instagram and AlbanyMuseumOfArt on Facebook.

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