

April 3, 2018

The Art Students League of New York Celebrates 125 Year Anniversary of Landmark Building w/ Two-Day ST[art]UP Weekend Extravaganza on May 11-12

Auction, gala, exhibitions, workshops, costume party & more

New York (NY): The Art Students League of New York (ASLNYC) will commemorate the 125th anniversary of the opening of their landmark building with ST[art]UP, a two-day celebration including exhibitions, auctions, art sales and experiential events on Friday, May 11 and Saturday, May 12.

The Art Students League of New York is a legendary art school that was founded in 1875 by a group of artists determined to experiment with new techniques and forms of expression. Excluded from established galleries, the students joined a movement to create a center that could be a home to innovative artists and ideas. Funded by gilded age philanthropists, including George Washington Vanderbilt II, and designed by architect Henry Janeway Hardenbergh, the League opened its doors at [215 West 57th Street](#) on December 4, 1892.

For over a century, the League has served as an incubator, school, creative haven, studio, and gallery for artists, dedicated to fostering independence and providing accessible, affordable and high-quality education and instruction in the fine arts.

Artists who have studied at ASLNYC include Georgia O'Keeffe, Norman Rockwell, Jackson Pollock, Robert Rauschenberg, Louise Bourgeois, Alexander Calder, James Rosenquist and Ai-Weiwei among others. Today, thousands of aspiring and emerging artists study drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking and mixed media at the League.

The ST[art]UP weekend celebration will kick off on Friday, May 11 with a reception and auction from 7:00PM-10:00PM. Guests will be able to bid and buy artwork by League instructors, students, alumni and young artists (proceeds will be split between artists and the League's educational programs); and explore the League's permanent collection (on-display all weekend) which includes works by Isabel Bishop, Alexander Calder, Will Barnet, James Rosenquist, William Merritt Chase, Charles Alston and many others.



William Merritt Chase, *Fish Still Life* (1908) | Allen Tucker, *October Cornfields* (1906)



Will Barnet, *Portrait, Djordje Milicevic* (1967) | Eugene Speicher, *Portrait of Georgia O'Keeffe* (1908) | Charles H. Alston, *Red, White and Black* (1960)

The celebration will continue on Saturday, May 12 with an afternoon open house from 11:00AM-3:00PM, where League students and instructors will be onsite to conduct live demonstrations and lead workshops for people of all ages and levels of artistic know-how. For history buffs, tours of the landmark building and work by world-famous League artists will be on view in the galleries.

Nodding to the League's history of hosting legendary and extravagant parties for New York City's art community (which have included Fakirs Balls, Dream Balls and 140NOW), the League will host their inaugural ST[art]UP House Party from 8:00PM-11:00PM on Saturday, May 12, promising an over-the-top evening of dancing, performance and costumes.

ST[art]UP at the Art Students League of New York is made possible with support from lead sponsors Extell Development Company; Mason Investment Advisory Services; MacPherson's; S. Sunshine & Associates, LLC; Armadillo Art & Craft; Golden Artist Colors, Inc.; SterlingRisk Insurance, and WithumSmith+Brown, PC.

Tickets for ST[art]UP events are available now at: <http://www.theartstudentsleague.org/startup/>

Daily schedule below:

Friday, May 11, 2018 | 7:00PM-10:00PM

Reception & Auction

Price: \$250 and above

At this kick-off event, guests will gather in the studios designed to evoke the grandeur of the Vanderbilt Gallery, where works by the League's renowned artists will be on display throughout the weekend. Guests will be able to bid and buy artworks by League instructors, students, alumni and young artists. This strolling reception will include sumptuous hors d'oeuvres, themed cocktails and live entertainment.

Saturday, May 12, 2018 | 11:00AM-3:00PM

Open House | Open Studios

Price: \$10 (all ages)

Anybody and everybody can MAKE art, SEE art, or even BE art at the League's Open House event. Students and instructors will be onsite to run demos and lead workshops for people of all ages and levels of artistic know-how. In the Vanderbilt Gallery, League models dressed to the nines will pose for a series of live sketch sessions. Ever wanted to try your hand at modeling? You, too, can take the stage and become a work for art.

Saturday, May 12, 2018 | 8:00PM-11:00PM

House Party

Price: \$50-\$125

The League has put on some legendary parties in the past - Fakirs Balls, Dream Balls and 140NOW - and this one promises to be a fabulous evening of dancing, performance, costumes, and over the top FUN. So join the League for the unforgettable inaugural ST[art]UP House Party!

The Art Students League of New York on the web:

Website: <http://www.theartstudentsleague.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/aslnyc/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/aslnyc>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/aslnyc/>