



Nicholas A. Colasanto Center  
 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22301  
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[www.TheDelRayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**“The Gathering of the Legends” photography exhibition**

**Show Dates:** August 6 - 22, 2010  
**First Thursday Preview:** Thursday, August 5, 2010, 12 noon – 9 p.m.  
**Opening Reception:** Friday, August 6, 2010, 7 p.m. - 10 p.m.  
**Artist's Talk:** The Art of Photojournalism, Thursday, August 12, 7 - 8:30 p.m.

**Alexandria, VA (June 17, 2010)** - Meet Alexandria's Living Legends of 2009-2010. Del Ray Artisans presents “*The Gathering of the Legends*” photo exhibition at its Nicholas A. Colasanto Center gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, from August 6 – 22. The exhibition is the culmination of this year's *Living Legends of Alexandria* program that features 30 of Alexandria's recent history makers, many of whom will be in attendance at the opening reception on Friday, August 6, 7-10 p.m. Twelve individuals or teams were selected from among the nominees as the 2009-2010 Living Legends of Alexandria – Chet Avery, Rosalind Bovey, V. Rodger Digilio, Nelson A. Green, Sr., Alice Merrill and Linda Odell, T. Michael Miller, John Porter, Joan and John Renner, David G. Speck, Pat Troy, Lois Walker, and Betty R. Wright. Their stories and photographs have appeared in the local press including the Alexandria Gazette Packet, localKicks and AlexandriaNews.org. and will be published in a catalog available at the opening reception. An Artist's Talk on the theme of the Art of Photojournalism is scheduled for Thursday, August 12, 7-8:30 p.m.

The project was conceived in the fall of 2006 by artist-photographer Nina Tisara in response to requests for photographs of people who were no longer living. When the photos were not available in the Tisara Photography archives, she devised a system for creating the photos and the accompanying stories.

Past Legends have included educators, artists, arts advocates, clergy, business people, lawyers, and community activists. Legends have created theater companies, computer training programs for low income citizens, a boat building school for at-risk youth, programs to stop child abuse and to improve community health, the Torpedo Factory Art Center, the Freedman's Contraband Cemetery and more. They have worked to build community by remembering African American heritage and the Holocaust. They have worked to increase racial and cultural dialog. The photographs and documentary materials are donated to the Special Collections Department of Alexandria Library where they are archived and available for future research. Requests for nominations are published regularly in the press and actively solicited from the community. To nominate a future Legend or for more information, please visit [www.AlexandriaLegends.com](http://www.AlexandriaLegends.com).

*Living Legends of Alexandria* is an ongoing photo-documentary project to identify, honor, and chronicle Alexandria's recent history makers. The Living Legends project recognizes those individuals whose vision and dedication have made a tangible difference to the quality of life in Alexandria. Major sponsors of this year's program are the Rotary Club of Alexandria, Virginia Dominion Power and McEneaney Associates. Media sponsors include Founding Sponsor Alexandria Gazette Packet, AlexandriaNews.org and localKicks. Living Legends of Alexandria is a 501(c)(3) corporation.

The exhibition will be at the Del Ray Artisans gallery at the Nicholas A. Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22301. Gallery hours are: Thursdays, 12 noon to 4 pm (First Thursdays, 12 noon to 9 pm); Fridays, 12 noon to 9 pm; Saturdays, 10 am to 9 pm; and Sundays, 12 noon to 6 pm. The gallery is free, open to the public and handicap accessible. For more information or directions, please visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org)

*Del Ray Artisans, founded in 1992, is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote art for the benefit of artists and the community.*

*Del Ray Artisans (DRA) appreciates the continued support from the Alexandria Commission for the Arts, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts and the City of Alexandria. DRA is a 501(c)(3) organization.*

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