



Nicholas A. Colasanto Center  
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[www.TheDelRayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Shades of White**

**Opening Reception:** Friday, January 4, 7-10 pm

**Show Dates:** January 4 – 27, 2013

**Alexandria, VA (released: October 29, 2012)** Opening with an artist reception on Friday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, from 7 to 10 pm is *Shades of White*. This Del Ray Artisans (DRA) all-member show kicks off the New Year with an artistic challenge to create artwork using only different shades of white. In 1951, artist Robert Rauschenberg scandalized the art community with his series of white paintings, proving that white isn't "just white".

Curators Betsy Mead and Hillary Mead are challenging DRA artists to go beyond Rauschenberg's work in their creative process by remembering the myriad of hues and tones that make "white". They should also consider the reactions that may occur in mixing or firing white pigments. The only restriction is that artists must use various shades of white in creating their artwork.

In conjunction with the *Shades of White* exhibit at Del Ray Artisans gallery, glass artist Betsy Mead will offer a fused-glass workshop using two shades of white to create a small plate. When these two white glasses are fired in the kiln, a chemical reaction occurs that will show our artists that white isn't "just white"! The class will be offered on Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 12 pm and will finish up on Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup> from 10 am to 11 am.

The *Shades of White* exhibit will be at Del Ray Artisans gallery at the Nicholas A. Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22301. Gallery hours are: 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, please visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org) or contact curators Betsy Mead (202-362-6405, [egmead@gmail.com](mailto:egmead@gmail.com)) or Hillary Mead (202-905-7509, [hpm713@gmail.com](mailto:hpm713@gmail.com)).

*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 City of Alexandria, Alexandria Commission for the Arts, Virginia Commission for the Arts and National Endowment for the Arts and. DRA is a 501(c)(3) organization.*

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