**Art of the Flag Workshop for Kids and Adults**

**with Matt Pavone**

**Kids Class:**

Students of the ‘Art of the Flag’ will begin with basic introductions and a warm up exercise. Matt will demonstrate how to first draw and then paint with colors. He will assist students as needed with the construction of the flag and discuss some of his own influences. Three original pieces of art from his Flag Series will be available to showcase the different techniques and mediums he uses to create the Flag. At the end of the lesson, students will have the opportunity to show and tell others about their Flag and inspirations for painting it.

**Adults Class:**

Students of the ‘Art of the Flag’ will begin with a 15-minute visual presentation taking students through a basic historical survey of artwork that features the American Flag.  The presentation is centered around how the depiction of the American Flag changes over time by moving from the American Revolution, through WWI and WWII, and concluding in the present-day era of modern art.  Students will gain greater insights during the presentation that they will then be asked to apply in their own unique painting of the American Flag. Matt will teach the steps to creating a flag and students will be encouraged to talk freely about colors associated with their memories.  Matt will assist students and provide a time for questions and answers.

The artist will have available at each session, 3 original pieces of art from his *Flag Series* to showcase the different techniques and mediums he uses to create the Flag, and will discuss some of his own influences.

Each participant will have the opportunity to create multiple flags and will receive a complimentary print, one per student.

**Where:**

Artists in Middleburg Gallery

102 W. Washington Street

Middleburg, Virginia

**Dates and Times:**

Kids Workshop – Saturday, October 15th

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Adult Workshop – Saturday October 22nd

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

**Class Size and Age:**

Kids Workshop – minimum 4, maximum 8

Ages 4 – 12, *must be accompanied by an adult*

Adult Workshop – minimum 4, maximum 8

Ages 13 +

**Cost:**

Kids Workshop - $50

Adult Workshop - $70

**Supply Requirements:**

**Paint**: Acrylic, 6-10 colors

**Writing Implements**: Colored crayons/markers; 1 pencil

**2 Paint Brushes**: No larger than 1/2" wide at bristle heads

**Straight edged implement:** 1 yardstick

Paper and cleaning supplies will be provided by AiM.

**Matthew Pavone Biography**

Matthew Pavone is a visual artist based locally in Northern Virginia, and active community volunteer who also serves on the Middleburg Art Council, in Middleburg Township.  Among Pavone’s various creative pursuits is an ongoing art series focused on flags - in particular the American Flag.  The use of symbols, signs, and the design elements of flags has always captivated Pavone. His pursuit of this art series is therefore a very natural extension of his lived experiences.

The artist was born and raised in Central New Jersey, and grew up on a dead-end street, adjacent to 2 siblings that served in World War II: Nick and Frank Maltese. Among Pavone’s earliest memories was the image of the American Flag flying proudly and responsibly This was a common fixture that flew 365 days a year in front of both Nick and Frank’s homes.  As an artist who creates stylized depictions of objects from his past, he relies on his emotional connection with specific memories and colors to express himself.  This is no less true for his Flag Series.    
  
Pavone works with different mediums and frequently uses collage, stencil, and hand-cut wood silhouettes to retrieve and revive his memories. The incorporation of different creative techniques helps him produce a reflection of those memories, and his past feelings as experienced through his present consciousness. These memories tend to flow through panels of imagery or recurring themes that are based on what he describes as looping memory tracks (e.g. flags, flowers, coffee, etc). From these memory tracks, Pavone investigates his influences and identity using color and patterning. In the end, his memory is fixed to the surface of curated or found materials of various type.  Whenever possible, he reclaims refuse, scraps and salvaged materials to revive and uplift the work.

Pavone readily attributes his creative approach to exposures to street art and counter culture of New York City and Montreal in the 1980s and 1990s.