

## National Board Meeting and Midwest Region 'Art & Social Justice' Conference

The summer board meeting and regional conference will be hosted by the Midwest Region in St. Louis, MO, July 21–24. There will be special meetings and programs for chapter representatives, and two full days of activities leading up to the annual WCA Board meeting, including the much-anticipated Art & Social Justice Conference; *Themis* exhibition reception; an Open Forum with current Board members, chapter reps, and regional VPs (chapter reps have always been welcome at the summer Board meeting, but we are encouraging all chapters to send a rep for a special meeting focusing on team building and the future of WCA); an afternoon bus tour, and plenty of time to network and visit.

We need to have a head count and contact information for everyone who's attending by Monday, June 27. Please email Janice Nesser-Chu at [president@nationalwca.org](mailto:president@nationalwca.org) with the following information: Your name, cell phone number, arrival date and information, departure date and information, hotel, and which events you'll be attending.

WCA has reserved a block of rooms at the Moonrise Hotel, 6177 Delmar Blvd. in "The Loop," at \$119 a night, available three days before and after the conference (call: 314-721-1111 for reservations, with the code Women's Caucus for Art). The rate includes complimentary self-parking, access to the business and fitness center, and high-speed Internet access. The hotel is across the street from the Regional Arts Commission where the Art & Social Justice Conference, the WCA open forum, and WCA Board meeting will be held. Spaces are limited so reserve your room today! We will also have a few in-home stays available. Check the June President's update for information on home stays.

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### Thursday, July 21

**Early check in.** Visit some of St. Louis's great museums and galleries or walk around The Loop, an area filled with restaurants, galleries, and nightly activities. More details on exhibitions and activities will be available in the July President's email update.

**Time TBA.** WCA Executive Committee meeting

**6 pm.** Possible dinner get together.

#### Friday, July 22

**9 am–4 pm.** Art & Social Justice Conference, Regional Arts Commission, 6128 Delmar Blvd. To register go to: [www.eventbrite.com/event/1579872441](http://www.eventbrite.com/event/1579872441). Do not contact the Regional Arts Commission for tickets. Ticket for the

conference (and lunch): Early registration before June 30 – \$35. After June 30 – \$45, Student \$25.

**7–9 pm.** Opening for Midwest region national exhibition *Themis* at Bouileau Hall, Saint Louis University, 35 N. Vandeventer Ave.

#### Saturday, July 23

**9–11 am.** Open forum with the WCA Board at the Regional Arts Commission

**Noon–5 pm.** Bus Tour (\$30. Register at [www.eventbrite.com/event/1579872441](http://www.eventbrite.com/event/1579872441)) includes lunch; YoungWC national journal exhibition at Florissant Valley Contemporary Art Gallery; a visit to City Museum (formerly International Shoe Company), this 600,000 sq. ft. museum is an eclectic mixture of surrealist pavilion and architectural marvel, made of unique, found objects; a visit to the GYA Cooperative (the first African American Women's Art Cooperative in STL); and a reception at ArtSpace at Crestwood Court, a former shopping mall repurposed as an art center.

**6:30–10 pm.** STL Chapter-hosted dinner at the home of WCA President Janice Nesser-Chu

#### Sunday, July 24

**8 am–4 pm.** WCA Board meeting, Regional Arts Commission, 6128 Delmar Blvd.

Board members should plan their departure times so that they are able to attend the entire meeting.

For more information visit [www.nationalwca.org](http://www.nationalwca.org) or email [president@nationalwca.org](mailto:president@nationalwca.org)



"Under the Gun," mixed media piece by YoungWC member Angeles Jonske

# President's Message by Janice Nesser-Chu

March marked the beginning of my second year as President. In the Winter 2011 issue of *Artlines*, I outlined all WCA had accomplished in 2010. But with all we have accomplished, we have so much more to do to continue our forward momentum.

At our February meeting, the National Board voted on several action items to be completed by the July Board meeting:

- Form a task force to look at the roles of the various WCA caucuses;
- Survey conference participants;
- Procure an analyst to evaluate the membership survey and disseminate that information to the membership to use as a guide for setting WCA goals;
- Create a development plan to include grants and endowments in order to provide more benefits to our members and chapters;
- Create an e-book for the 40th anniversary that will include all the LTA books;
- Further upgrade the website to allow easier access and improved functionality for our members. Members have already seen a few changes implemented since the Board meeting. They can use their email address and create their own password; update their contact information on the website; access the Lifetime Achievement Awards database to see who is on the lists of possible Awardees; add names and update information to the LTA database. There will soon be a members' calendar where members can list exhibitions, workshops, etc.
- Change the delivery of *Artlines*: One of the big discussions at the Board meeting surrounded the delivery of the newsletter you are now reading. The Board discussed three options: an e-newsletter, an e-newsletter and a printed annual magazine,



**As women artists and feminists, we have come a long way but we still have so far to go. What will the future look like?**

and an e-newsletter with the option of choosing a printed copy. Reasons for the change include: cost of production, printing and mailing (currently 15% of your dues), timeliness (*Artlines* takes three months to produce, so the contents are often outdated), and environment (an e-newsletter would have less impact on the environment).

- Again this year all Board members are being asked to set themselves three goals to achieve for WCA during 2011. Board members are also being charged with raising at least \$500 each for WCA in 2011 to provide more services and benefits to our members and chapters.

March brought about some transition in leadership on the national Board. Welcome to VP for Development Avinger Nelson; Regional VP Northeast Alison Altergott; Board Appointed Director Kat Griefen; Honor Awards Chair Amy Galpin; Eco Art Caucus Interim Chairs Deborah Thomas and Anu Sud Hittle; Chapters' Council Directors Bonnie MacAllister and Helen Poole Newman (one-year terms), and Niku Kashef, Barbara Melanik Carson, Helen Obermyer Simmons, Dale Osterle, and Linda Gilbert-Schneider (three-year terms). Thank you to our outgoing board members for their time, energy, commitment and service: Laurie Carlock, Liz Dodson, Marsha Heck, Susan Kraft, Rona Lesser, Patricia Martini, Anne Swartz, Maureen Shanahan, and Diana Talbot.

March also began the year-long preparation for the 40th anniversary of WCA. At the 2012 WCA Conference in Los Angeles, we will kick off a year of activities across the country celebrating WCA. We encourage everyone to join in the celebration! Plan activities in your communities with your chapters that honor the rich history and diversity of WCA. It is a time of celebration as well as reflection. As women artists and feminists, we have come a long way but we still have so far to go. What will the future look like? Will you be a part of the momentum?

I challenge you to become involved, to be a catalyst in WCA, in your chapters in your community. It is up to us to create our future!

**2012 Women's Caucus for Art 40th Anniversary**

The celebration begins in Los Angeles, CA, February 23–27.  
For more information, visit [www.nationalwca.org](http://www.nationalwca.org).

# LIVE SPACE: Wrap Up

by Janice Nesser-Chu, WCA President

*(parts reprinted from the March President's email update)*

The WCA Live Space Conference and 2011 Lifetime Achievement Awards are now a memory. It was a wonderful, non-stop, energy filled event from the Live Space session on Thursday morning to the Lifetime Achievement Awards and Live Space Gala on Saturday night to the Board meeting Monday. WCA took New York by storm with members coming from all over the US to take part.

In the spirit of collaboration and community building, WCA held a series of events involving our members, the many caucuses of WCA, the College Art Association, Institute for Women & Art at Rutgers University, St. Francis College, Kraft Center for Jewish Life, Brodsky Center for Innovative Editions, The Feminist Art Project, The Feminist Tea Party, Brainstormers, Project Space, and For the Birds Collective. We also worked with many New York Galleries and Museums: Raandesk Gallery, New Century Artists, A.I.R., Ceres, Elizabeth Sackler Center for Feminist Art, American Folk Art Museum, Zimmerli Museum, and Mary H. Dana Women's Artist Series Gallery (Rutgers). We thank all the organizations and institutions who worked with WCA to make the conference a success.

I would once again like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Lifetime Achievement Awardees: Beverly Buchanan, Diane Burko, Ofelia Gracia, Joan Marter, Carolee Schneeman and the late Sylvia Sleigh. I also want to congratulate the President's Awardee for Art and Activism, Maria Torres. Their lives and work are an inspiration to all of us. I would like to thank the presenters and those who wrote biographies for the LTA catalog for sharing the history and stories of these remarkable women with us: Lucy Lippard, Marianetta Porter, Judith E. Stein, Mary D. Garrard, Susan Ball, Midori Yoshimoto, Andrea Kirsh, Jill O'Bryan, Andrew Hottle, Paula Ewin, Douglas John, and Edward Signorile.

I especially want to thank our members: those who came to the events, those who could not come but supported us financially or in spirit, and to the hundred or so volunteers who worked tireless hours to make it happen. As I like to say, WCA is a team sport. Every member is important to its success and its future. WCA is not just me, or the national Board, it is every member, in every state, in every city, who gives of herself to make the WCA mission statement come to life. Thank you for supporting WCA and this year's Live Space Conference and Lifetime Achievement Awards.



WCA President Janice Nesser-Chu (front row, second from right) celebrates with (front row, from left) Maria Torres (President's Award for Art and Activism) and Lifetime Achievement Award winners Joan Marter, Diane Burko, Beverly Buchanan, (back row, from left) Carolee Schneeman, and Ofelia Gracia. Douglas John and Edward Signorile accepted the LTA on behalf of the late Sylvia Sleigh. Photo © Shaun Baker 2011.

## WCA Supporters

We would like to thank the many supporters who, through their financial contributions, supported WCA's mission in 2010.

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## LIVE SPACE: Wrap Up (con'td)

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The Point Community Development Corp, Bronx, NY  
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Barbara Wolanin, Bethesda, MD

## The Chapters' Council Meetings in New York 2011

by Ulla Barr, VP Chapter Relations

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The Chapters' Council, made up of 18 representatives from the majority of our chapters and additional chapter members, met three times in New York, early on Thursday and Saturday mornings, with continued discussion on Saturday afternoon. We started by getting to know each other and gathering nominations for five directors on the National WCA Board, who will serve for three years ending at the February 2014 Board meeting. A total of 15 directors are elected by representatives from the chapters. Although their mission is to represent chapter interests in general, the goal is to have women from as many chapters around the country as possible on the Board. Elected were Niku Kashef (Southern California), Barbara Melnik Carson (Michigan), Helen Obermeyer Simmons (Central Massachusetts), Dale Osterle (Chicago), and Linda Gilbert-Schneider (New Hampshire and New York).

The discussions made clear that there is desire for more collaboration among chapters. There is interest in starting some new chapters as well as enthusiasm and great momentum going for a revived New York chapter. Chapter representatives shared challenges with finding people who will step up to be officers and in finding ways to draw in new members. We heard about numerous successful exhibitions, projects, and activism that are evidence of the vitality and value of WCA on the chapter level. The collection of *2010 Chapter Presidents' Reports* will be posted on the national website. The synergy of women from different chapters meeting in person and sharing ideas and concerns is exciting to see. There is no better way to understand what WCA is about than by attending a national conference.

# Experiencing WCA's LIVE SPACE women • art • activism

by Marilyn Hayes, WCA Past President

Live Space lived up to its name! I recall a swirl of activity, energy, collaborations, new faces, new approaches, new ideas, and connections with old friends. Every day there were exciting, thought provoking events and new ideas. A few high points: the Thursday morning confab, the Live Space panel in the afternoon, and the “Knit In” performance. Also, the Chelsea exhibits, YoungWC performances, and seeing Judy Chicago’s “Dinner Party.” Of course, the Awards events on Saturday, always my favorite activity, were over the top.

The Thursday confab set the tone for the week, featuring collaborations with the Feminist Tea Party—an unexpected and fruitful paradox—a traditional mix of tea and sweets served on china along with an enlivening panel discussion with in-the-moment activist artists, curators, and collectives. The afternoon Live Space panel continued the activist theme with Carolee Schneeman in a huge room that was completely packed. A highlight for me was chatting with awardees Beverly Buchanan and Emma Amos at the WCA Awardees exhibit at the Flomenhaft Gallery.

On Saturday the Lifetime Achievement Awards ceremony and reception wrapped up Live Space. I sat with Jan

Nesser-Chu’s President’s Awardee, Maria Torres, and her two young sons at the ceremony. Afterward, at the spectacular reception, I chatted with the Awardees, friends, and family and enjoyed spectacular food in the Folk Art Museum, a beautiful venue. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to produce the Live Space experience.



Brenda Oelbaum, VP of the Midwest Region, (left) joins Carmen Kolodzey (right) at the WCA Live Space conference registration table.

## Live Space: A Personal Reflection

by Ofra Friedman, Florida Chapter Exhibitions Chair

The Women’s Caucus for Art Live Space conference in New York was an inspiring forum and experience, which gave me a new outlook about WCA, its mission, targets, and scope. I see the significance of WCA in supporting and promoting women visual artists, recognizing their achievements, and building a professional community through the arts.

The conference was especially valuable to me as a newcomer to WCA, and it was a great introduction to the group. The Chapters’ Council meeting was run smoothly and five new national Board directors were elected. I met the President, national and regional Board members, and fellow representatives of the different WCA chapters. Everyone was friendly and welcoming.

The panel discussions were thought provoking. The Friday bus tour was great, as was the gallery talk and amazing exhibition of Judy Chicago’s “The Dinner Party” at the Elizabeth Sackler Center for Feminist Art at the Brooklyn Museum of Art. We visited the *New Beginnings* exhibition at the Callahan Center at St. Francis College, and the *Hidden Cities* exhibition at New Century Artists Gallery.

The highlight of the conference was the Lifetime Achievement Awards ceremony. It was touching and inspiring to learn about the great, talented women who made a difference with their outstanding contributions to the art world. The wonderful Gala followed, with a private tour of the American Folk Art Museum, a gourmet dinner, and a chance to meet the awardees and network with others.

WCA connects all generations, backgrounds, religions, and nationalities with one purpose. My plans are to promote the Florida Chapter in my immediate areas of Sarasota and Tampa as well as in other regions of Florida, and to work with my chapter to organize our upcoming annual exhibition.

I appreciated the opportunity to meet and network with great women and artists from all over the country and I intend to participate in future exhibitions and collaboration opportunities. I appreciate the hard work and commitment that went into organizing such an event, and the opportunity that was given me to participate.

# Lifetime Achievement Awards: Looking Back, Looking Forward

by Amy Galpin, Honor Awards Chair, and Janice Nesser-Chu, President

The Lifetime Achievement Awards were one of the first awards recognizing the contribution of women to the arts and its profound effect on the larger society. The Awards honor their work, their vision, their commitment and their sheer determination. It brings to light not only their voices, but also the voices of thousands of women who came before them who remained hidden in the shadows of their male counterparts. The awards are a powerful history, not only for the Women's Caucus for Art, but for all women and men. They are woven into the fabric of the history of our country and our culture.

## Looking Back at 2011

The 2011 Lifetime Achievement Awards celebrated sculptor Beverly Buchanan, artist and arts activist Diane Burko, artist and educator Ofelia Garcia, art historian and educator Joan Marter, artist Carolee Schneemann, and the late artist Sylvia Sleigh. Also honored with the first President's Award for Art & Activism was Maria Torres, founder and executive director of the Point Community Center (The Bronx, NYC).

President Janice Nesser-Chu presided over the Awards Ceremony and Gala, introducing a new format: the Awards Ceremony took place at the Hilton New York and the "Live Space" Gala at the American Folk Art Museum. The 325 members of the Awards audience filled the room to overflowing. The Gala featured a walk-around dinner and tours of the museum.

Conference Co-Chair Linda Gilbert-Schneider, Fundraising Chair Maureen Shanahan, Vice President of Special Events Holly Dodge, Honor Awards Chair Anne Swartz, Awards Liaison Coordinator Yuriko Takata, and Director of Operations Karin Luner assisted Nesser-Chu in planning and fundraising for the Lifetime Achievement Awards. Other Board members playing key



The 2011 WCA Lifetime Achievement Awards at the Hilton New York attracted an audience of 325 people. Photo © Shaun Baker 2011.

roles in fundraising, planning, and as liaisons include Marilyn Hayes, Sandra Mueller, Brenda Oelbaum, Ulla Barr, Barbara Wolanin, Susan Kraft, Priscilla Otani, and C.M. Judge. Conference Co-Chair Linda Gilbert-Schneider and WCA Board member Rebecca Kramer managed the silent auction and raffle.

## Looking Forward to 2012 and Beyond

Last fall WCA began preparing for the next round of Honor Awards, beginning with selection of the 2012 Lifetime Achievement Awardees. These artists and art historians represent divergent interests in the visual arts, but share the significance of their accomplishments and commitment to innovation.

- **Suzanne Lacy** is an internationally renowned artist, educator, and activist who founded the MFA Public Practice program at Otis College of Art and Design. In 2010, she received the Distinguished Artist Award for Lifetime Achievement from the College Art Association.
- **Trinh T. Minh-ha** is a professor at the University of California at Berkeley in both the Department of Gender & Women's Studies and the Department of Rhetoric. She is a prolific author, filmmaker, and installation artist.
- **Ferris Olin** is co-director of the Institute for Women and Art at Rutgers University and a leader of The Feminist Art Project. With Judith Brodsky, Olin has curated a number of important exhibitions for the Institute for Women and Art at Rutgers.
- **Whitney Chadwick** is a highly regarded art historian who has contributed numerous important books and articles on 20th-century and contemporary American and European art, women, and surrealism.
- **Bernice Steinbaum** founded her successful New York gallery in 1977, demonstrating an on-going commitment to showing the work of women artists. In 2000, she closed her gallery in New York and relocated to Miami, where her Bernice Steinbaum Gallery has transformed the arts community there.

The 2012 President's Award for Art and Activism is still to be announced. Save the date for the awards events in Los Angeles: Saturday evening, February 25, 2012.

For the 2013 Awards, current members can submit or update nominations to the database via the membership portal at [www.nationalwca.org](http://www.nationalwca.org). Log in to the membership portal, click on Membership, then click on LTA Database, and follow the directions. The deadline for 2013 nominations is June 30, 2011.

# New Projects for the Young Women's Caucus

by Jaimianne Amucicci

2011 brings a new series of projects for the Young Women's Caucus. Since 2009, when the YoungWC first started at Finlandia University in Michigan, the organization now has a mailing list of more than 100 people nationally. YoungWC has hosted exhibitions and fundraisers, and this year will continue the positive trend.

At the 2011 NYC Conference, YoungWC focused on the theme Live Space. Bonnie MacAllister curated a performance art event at Raandesk Gallery with the help of Yueh Mei Cheng. The event featured more than a dozen artists and included work by the Green Light Arts organization. We also held two Live Space events, including "Penny for your Thoughts," a flash mob-like performance, and a costume happening, "Women of the Rainbow." To attend the NYC conference, the Finlandia members hosted a fundraiser with a coordinating silent auction, "Afternoon Delight."

*The Journal Project* traveling exhibit is continuing into 2011. This self-proclaimed "collaborative art experiment" was organized by Melissa Hronkin. The show has already appeared in the Reflection Gallery (Hancock, MI) and soon will be traveling to Saint Louis and the rest of the United States for twelve months.

On April 14, Jaimianne Amucicci, Bonnie MacAllister, and Autumn Horne co-hosted a performance with A Feminist Tea Party at New York Foundation for the Arts. The panel, "Activism in Performance: Representing Women," included both performance and critical discussion on the topic of performance as a platform for female activism.

As for the future of 2011, YoungWC plans to have a presence at the WCA Midwest Regional Art and Social Justice Conference in St. Louis in July, and has started planning for the 2012 Los Angeles conference. YoungWC launched a new website in March, [www.youngwc.weebly.com](http://www.youngwc.weebly.com) with an online guestbook so members can introduce themselves. The next traveling show for 2012, to be hosted by the Saint Louis members, is on the theme *A Walk in Her Shoes*. All WCA members are encouraged to venture onto the new site.



Young Women's Caucus members waiting to go on the Live Space bus tour in New York City.

## INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

by Priscilla Otani

International Committee members Fay Grajower and Priscilla Otani met with Annelise Jarvis-Hansen in New York City during the February WCA Live Space Conference to discuss the possibility of another collaboration for the 2011 UN DPI/NGO Conference in Bonn, Germany (September 3–5). The topic for the 2011 Conference is "Sustainable Societies, Responsive Citizens." Jarvis-Hansen is the founder of KIK-International, and collaborated with WCA, Ribbons International, and two other NGOs at the Mexico City UN Conference in 2009. I have since been in touch with Michele Peppers of Ribbons International, who is also interested in a repeat collaboration with WCA. WCA will submit proposals for both a workshop and an art exhibition for the Bonn Conference.

Some ideas the International Committee is considering for both the exhibition and workshop are:

- "Where is Away?" on the issue of stockpiled discarded products such as old computers and mobile phones being processed by women and children
- "What Sustains You?" The creation and exhibition of a single, large quilt made of recycled materials, sewn by people (civil society as well as artists) responding to the question, "What sustains you?"
- "How Should We Leave Our Carbon Footprint?"
- "Fostering Respect, Speaking Out Against Bullying"

The 2011 International Committee goals are:

- Collect annual WCA data on art activism
- Develop presence with the UN DPI/NGO community by attending briefings at the UN, particularly on Women's Issues and Annual UN DPI/NGO Conference Planning Committee
- Play a role during the UN Bonn conference: a workshop in collaboration with UN NGOs and youth, an exhibition related to the 2011 topic
- Apply for and obtain ECOSOC status with the UN.

## 2011 DATES TO REMEMBER

April 18: Call for nominations for President-Elect to serve 2012–2014

June 1: Call to submit names to LTA database

June 4: *Artlines* mailed

June 30: Nominations due for President-Elect

June 30: Deadline to submit names to database for possible 2013 LTA nominees

July 21–24: Board meeting/Midwest regional Art & Social Justice Conference, St. Louis, MO

July 30: Announcement of President-Elect candidate(s)

July 30: Article deadline for *Artlines* fall newsletter

Sept. 22: *Artlines* fall newsletter mailed (includes information on candidates for President-Elect)

Oct. 1: 2012 Membership drive begins

Oct. 28: Article deadline for *Artlines* winter 2012 newsletter

Oct. 29: Tentative deadline for national exhibition in Los Angeles

Nov. 12: Tentative deadline for 8th International Video Shorts Festival

Nov. 18: Early registration begins for WCA conference in Los Angeles

Nov. 27: Deadline to cast vote for 2012–2014 President-Elect

Dec. 1: Members notified by email of election results

Feb 23–26, 2012: WCA 40th Anniversary celebration and annual conference, Los Angeles, CA

Feb 27, 2012: WCA National Board meeting

## Exhibitions Update

by Karen Gutfreund

### Hidden Cities —WCA National Juried Show 2011

*Hidden Cities*, the 2011 National Juried Exhibition at the New Century Artists Gallery, 530 West 25th St., in New York City's Chelsea district, had a record submission of 894 works by 362 artists from around the country. Juror Lisa Phillips, director of the New Museum (NYC) selected works by 42 artists for the exhibition and/or catalog.

Ms. Phillips wrote, "Whatever the motivation and interpretation, these artists have given us wonderful images for contemplation ... Hidden cities are all around and inside us—waiting to be animated, discovered, and revealed." The reception was filled to capacity and the buzz among the attendees was a testament to the powerful works in this exhibition. The catalog is available for \$22 at [www.lulu.com/product/paperback/hidden-cities/15058618?productTrackingContext=search\\_results/search\\_shelf/center/1](http://www.lulu.com/product/paperback/hidden-cities/15058618?productTrackingContext=search_results/search_shelf/center/1).

### National Show Collaboration!

*Man as Object—Reversing the Gaze* is a National WCA exhibition, the brainchild of Brenda Oelbaum and committee members Karen Gutfreund, Priscilla Otani, and Tanya Augsburg. This exhibition started as a proposal exhibition request to Ceres Gallery in New York City and while it made it into the finalists, the proposal was not chosen. We are happy to announce this project received the 2011 Curatorial Award from SOMArts Cultural Center in San Francisco. Over 200 applications were submitted with only four being chosen. We are very proud of our efforts and encourage other WCA members to take on projects such as this; the teamwork is empowering! The exhibition will be surrounded by additional programs, including performance art, "peepshow drawing circles," film screenings, and discussion panels. The opening reception will take place on Friday evening, November 4, 2011 in San Francisco. The show will travel next to the Kinsey Institute in the summer of 2012.



Reception for the national WCA juried exhibition *Hidden Cities* at the New York conference

# Chapter News

by Barbara Wolanin, Advisor for Chapter Relations

*As the following chapter reports show, the state of the WCA union is good!*

## Pacific Region

A **Regional VP** for the California chapters is needed. Let President Janice Nesser-Chu know if you might be interested in the position.

The almost 35-year-old **Northern California** chapter revised bylaws, policies, procedures, and its mission statement last year and went through a strategic planning process to review the structure of the Board, and improve communication and leadership development. A members show of new media at the ARC gallery is scheduled for May.

**Peninsula** had a busy year with a blog workshop, a new chapter blog at <http://peninsulawca.blogspot.com>, an Art Salon at a member's "Italian villa," and four exhibitions. The April/May exhibition, *Daydreams & Nightmares*, was held at the Avenue 25 Gallery in San Mateo. A two-part exhibition with a catalogue and a September exhibition are planned for 2011.

**Monterey Bay** is seeking a grant from the Monterey Bay Aquarium to allow them to collaborate with the Wahini Project—a local group that works with undeserved girls to teach them surfing and the importance of the ocean environment—on a project about how plastic waste affects the ocean. The chapter is also starting a monthly artist salon, meeting in local coffee houses to talk about art and gain members.

**South Bay Area** celebrated SWAN Day on the last Saturday of March. SWAN stands for Support Women Artists Now! The chapter holds Art Circles critiques. February saw an invitational show, *Better Luck Next Time*, at Works San Jose and *Choices*, the 22nd SBAWCA non-juried Member Show.

**Southern California** keeps active with studio visits, lectures, workshops, and an artist retreat. SCWCA launched Contemporary Art Walk-Through sessions this year. It used a grant from the LA County Arts Commission to make the chapter website a hub for women artists. The chapter coordinates the Southern California Feminist Art Project and supported the Pearls of Wisdom *End the Violence* exhibition at the Korean Cultural Center.

Following the success of *Going Green*, **San Diego** is planning more online juried shows for 2011. Themes include *Express Yourself*, *Diversity*, *Telling Stories*, *Bursting Out*, and *Open Theme*. For deadlines and more information, visit their website at [www.sdwca.org/On\\_Line\\_Juried\\_Shows.htm](http://www.sdwca.org/On_Line_Juried_Shows.htm)

## Northwest Region

Regional VP Rebecca Kramer

**Oregon** concluded the year with four workshops and three exhibitions, as well as hosting the *9th International Women Artists Exhibition: Her Presence in Colours* and associated conference. OWCA members showed their work along with that of homeless youth from the Pearl Art District. The chapter participates in Portland's bi-monthly *Art Spark* and holds monthly Show & Share evenings, workshops, or guest speakers. In March, past chapter presidents told stories of the past 25 years of the chapter. In July, the chapter will mount two group shows. For 2011, OWCA plans to update its bylaws, grow its membership, improve its website, encourage members to participate at the national level, and establish a new chapter publication.

## Southwest Region

Women who participated in Live Space in New York expressed interest in starting chapters in Utah and Texas. All members-at-large in those states who may be interested should contact **Regional VP Leslie Aguillard**.

**Colorado** organized a national WCA exhibition *Bras, Bangles and Bunions* in collaboration with the TACTile Textile Arts Center. It was on view at the Habitat Gallery in Denver throughout February 2011 and was a great success. Seven hundred people made the opening the best-attended in the art district, with pieces from Maine, New Jersey, and Michigan as well as Colorado. The theme was so thought-provoking that Part II is planned for later this year at TACTile's new facility, so keep an eye out for another call for entries.



From left: Jean Smith and Leslie Aguillard of WCA Colorado and Renee Chase of the New Jersey chapter at the opening of *Bras, Bangles and Bunions* at the TACTile Arts Center in Denver, CO.

# Chapter News (con't)

## Midwest Region

Regional VP *Brenda Oelbaum*

**Chicago** is proud of its 37-year history. The chapter had WCA booths at Art Expo and the Creative Chicago Expo. In February the chapter organized the workshop “Let It Shine: Promoting Yourself as a Visual Artist” and the program “Smart Phones and Dumb Laws” focused on artists’ rights. In honor of Women’s History Month (March), the chapter program included a film “Abortion, Morality, and the Liberation of Women,” featuring Dr. Susan Wicklund, a medical doctor and author, followed by a discussion. The chapter meets monthly and is planning a future “Water” exhibition.

**Michigan** welcomed 2011 LTA winner Beverly Buchanan and her best friend Jane Bridges after the New York conference. Beverly shared stories about her life and spoke to the deeper significance and symbolism of her work. WCA-MI is inviting its members and other Michigan women artists to create work inspired by the art of Beverly Buchanan. Her work is also being presented to high school students by an art teacher member. The chapter is going to nominate Beverly Buchanan to the Michigan Women’s Hall of Fame.

**Minnesota** has focused on attracting students to their meetings via a notice in the Minnesota College of Art and Design newsletter and the *Women and Water Rights* exhibition.

**Nebraska’s** most recent show, *Pandora’s Box*, included a box containing a small object from each participating artist. Some included a representation of the item in their work, some placed the actual item in their box, and others created a piece inspired by the item. The boxes were exchanged among the artists with the expectation that each recipient would use the item in the box.

**Indiana** exhibited members’ work at the Buchanan Art Center in April and May.

**St. Louis** was off to a running start in 2011 thanks to a generous donation by a longtime member funding travel for six members to the National Conference and Board meeting. WCA-STL is busy planning the Art & Social Justice Conference and national board meeting in St. Louis in July; all WCA members are encouraged to attend. The conference includes a national juried exhibit. Five exhibitions are planned for the year along with many activist events. A new local board position, Outreach Chair, will focus on promoting WCA-STL to the public and organizing mentorship programs.

## Northeast Region

Welcome new **Regional VP Alison Altergott** of Philadelphia!

**New Hampshire** has been active for 15 years, has around 100 members, held five exhibitions last year, and has more planned for 2011. In January, an exhibition of Board members’ work, *Now Showing*, was held at Red River Theatres Gallery in Concord. *Dig It*, a juried exhibition around the theme of organic gardening, opened in April at the Framers Market in Manchester. Two invitational shows, *Flowers Interpreted* (Bedford Public Library) and *VERTICAL* (Rey Center Gallery, Waterville Valley) will follow in July and August, respectively. The chapter is making plans to offer programming in partnership with the Circle Program, which helps underserved girls. WCA/NH also offers a college scholarship every year, and holds art-shares regularly.

**Central Massachusetts**, with 30 members, organized three exhibitions in 2010, including *Hot, Hot, Hot: A Members Exhibit*. The *Fifth Annual Members’ Exhibit* featured a televised panel discussion at Fitchburg Access Television. The chapter also organized several workshops; one featured casting iron at the Sculpture Park in New Milford, which was filmed and broadcast. The chapter has decided to rest and focus on rebuilding in 2011 and is already planning for Women’s History Month in March 2012.

**Pioneer Valley** is presently inactive.

**Boston** had a successful show with reviews in local newspapers at the Bromfield Gallery in August and another show this winter at Wheelock College. The chapter website includes a rotating exhibit of members’ work. They have also started a Facebook page. The chapter is fortunate to meet at Emmanuel College, where in March the program focused on the topic “Is there a need for a feminist art organization and what role will emerging artists play?” The chapter placed an ad in *Art New England* for the event to help attract participants and new members.

**Connecticut** is flourishing, responding to members’ interest in building relationships with salons, parties, knitting sessions, and visits to galleries and museums called Lunch & Look. The chapter is planning a large juried show and panels in March 2012. Plans include more collaboration with other chapters and developing scholarships and a mentoring program.

**WCA New York** is in the process of formation.

**Philadelphia** held two exhibitions, an activist art performance, and two collaborative projects in 2010. At the Philadelphia Fringe Festival, collaboration with Green Light Arts created a 1970s Woman House-inspired theater/art performance, including decorated chairs used in a “sit-out.” The *Traveling Journal Project* in fall 2010 was a collaborative art experiment with an online component, culminating in a Young Women’s Caucus



Arise Academy students collaborated with WCA-Philadelphia members to create these books during "What They Taught Us." Photo by Alison Altergott.



WCA-Philadelphia members (from left) Virginia Maksymowicz, Bonnie MacAllister, and Veronica Gledhill at Women and Water: An International Women's Day Show. Photo by Alison Altergott.

traveling exhibition in 2011. *Battle of the Sexes* at the Delaware Art Museum through May 22 challenged the public to tell whether works were by one of the women artists or by an invited male artist. Partnership with International House continued with *Women and Water: An International Women's Day Show* in March 2011. Also in 2011, chapter members collaborated with elementary students in Wilmington, DE, to create books exploring identity through art and words. At the March meeting, the chapter hosted a mixer/art card workshop and exchange with two other local arts groups. The chapter continues to network with WCA-DC at their annual Networking Day, and would welcome connections with other chapters.

## Southeast Region

Regional VP Ann Rowles

**Greater Washington, DC** organized a successful show open to all chapter members in November at the Delaplaine Art Center in Frederick, MD. Exhibition tours were led by local artists and chapter members for *The Lois Maillou Jones* exhibition at the National Museum of Women in the Arts, and *The Art of Gaman: Arts and Crafts from the Japanese American Internment Camps* at the Renwick Gallery. WCA/DC members participated in the exhibition *Women and Water* with the Philadelphia chapter in March. The chapter's annual Networking Day program was held in May.

**Georgia**, founded 11 years ago, has new leadership, a revitalized blog, and new energy. Its 2010 exhibition *Brainstorm* was invited to travel to the Upstairs Gallery in Tryon, NC in February. *I'm in Love with This Idea*, another member exhibit, opened in March at Georgia Perimeter College. In January, WCAGA presented a free public program by former advertising creative director Nina Rubin on "Social Media: Sales Strategies for Artists" for chapter members and area artists. The

chapter is co-sponsoring an artist talk by WCA Florida founder Judith Segall about *Supper Party*, her show at the Archetype Gallery in Atlanta, which features 13 plates, many created by WCA members. In April esteemed artist Larry Walker is invited to critique members' work. The chapter's popular ArtShare programs continue semi-monthly at members' homes and studios.

**Florida's** reins are being held by founder Judith Segall and past president/charter member Bonnie Sprung until further development of new leadership. Meg King and Ofra Friedman represented the chapter at WCA's Live Space in New York. In the planning stages are potential museum exhibitions in Orlando and Tampa, the annual *Art and Soul* exhibition to benefit charities, and banquet and awards presentation for Mid Career and Lifetime Achievement for Florida artists.

**Charleston** organized *Celebrating Women*, a Piccolo Spoleto visual arts event featuring works by eight members of the chapter at the Center for Women. The Piccolo exhibit (May 25–August 31, 2011) is inspired by the work of photojournalist Paola Gianturco, who traveled the world for four years to photograph festivals celebrating women. Learn more at [www.c4women.org](http://www.c4women.org) and <http://wcacharleston.blogspot.com>.

**Louisiana** ended the year with an annual membership dinner. The third annual *Femme Fest Exhibition* was held at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival Gallery, March 12–April 15, 2011, with a Women's Literary Salon funded by Poets and Writers, Inc., and an arts and crafts market. In the fall, a members-only exhibition is planned for The Big Top Gallery including a Women's Literary Salon and a night of films by women. The chapter continues its successful members' studio salons.



Louisiana chapter founder and Femme Fest coordinator Phyllis Parun, seen here with her painting, is one of 42 exhibitors in the third annual Femme Fest open call exhibition held at the Jazz and Heritage Foundation Gallery in New Orleans.



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2011 National & Chapter Board of Directors

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- Priscilla Otani, President-Elect
- Second VP – OPEN
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- Marilyn J. Hayes, Past President
- Ulla Barr, VP for Chapter Relations
- Sandra Mueller, VP for Organizational Outreach
- Avinger Nelson, VP for Development
- Holly Dodge, VP for Special Events

**Board Appointed Directors**

- Barbara Wolanin, Chapter Relations
- Kat Griefen, Gallery/Museum Liason
- Temma Balducci, CAA Liaison

**Regional Vice Presidents**

- Alison Altergott, Northeast Region
- Ann Rowles, Southeast Region
- Brenda Oelbaum, Midwest Region
- Pacific Region – OPEN
- Rebecca Kramer, Northwest Region
- Leslie Aguillard, Southwest Region

**Chapters' Council Board Members**

2009	2010	2011
Bonnie MacAllister	Leslie Hume	Niku Kashef
Yueh-mei Cheng	Karen Gutfreund	Barbara M. Carson
Helen Poole Newman	Fay Grajower	Helen Obermyer Simmons
Roxanne Phillips	Jaimianne Amicucci	Dale Osterle
Judith Segall	OPEN	Linda Gilbert-Schneider

**WCA Standing Committee Chairs**

- Amy Galpin, Honor Awards Chair
- Yuriko Takata, Nominations Chair
- Janice Nesser-Chu/Priscilla Otani, 2012 Conference (Los Angeles) Co-Chairs
- 2013 Conference (New York) Chair: OPEN

**WCA Caucus Chairs**

- Deborah Thomas and Anu Sud Hittle, Eco Art Caucus Interim Co-Chairs
- Yueh-mei Cheng and Jaimianne Amicucci, Young Women's Caucus Interim Co-Chairs
- Rona Lesser, JWAN (Jewish Women Artist Network) Chair
- New Media Caucus Chair – OPEN

**Staff**

- Karin Luner, Director of Operations
- Marcia Santore, *Artlines* Editor
- Kathy Strauss, *Artlines* Design

Call for Nominations for  
WCA President-Elect

Deadline June 30, 2011

For more information on nomination submission requirements, position qualifications, and job description, go to

[www.nationalwca.org](http://www.nationalwca.org)

Log into the membership portal using your email address and password, click on "my membership," then click on "WCA Documents."