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# PULSE

## WCA NEWSLETTER

**JULY 2018**



### WCA CALENDAR

**July 15: Chapter News due for PULSE**

#### Mark Your Calendar:

2019 WCA Conference in New York City – Thursday, Friday, Saturday, February 13-16, 2019

Photo from left to right: At the High 5 Gallery- Student Club Chair, Sondra Schwetman; Director of Operations, Karin Luner; Regional Chair Pacific/Northwest, Ulla Barr

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

We met in Philadelphia for the WCA summer board meeting June 8-9 and enjoyed a meet-up with the energetic Philadelphia Chapter (see photos below) at their gallery/meeting space [High 5 Gallery](#). The Chapter activities are a mix of member exhibitions and outreach to public schools and other women's and feminist organizations--they're committed to making real change. We also toured the [Fabric Museum and Workshop's](#) inspiring exhibition *Ursula von Rydingsvard: The Contour of Feeling*, and got a behind the scenes look, too.



We did get down to business, discussed what it means to be an all-volunteer organization (AVO) and identified member participation as a central focus. The theme of the 2019 conference is "Bridge the Gap." Noreen Dean Dresser, former WCA president, is taking on Exhibitions and planning an event that celebrates the chapters. There will be a Chapters Council meeting and a Board Meeting, to which all WCA members are invited. As well, the Jewish Women Artists' Network,

Eco-art, International, and Young Women's Caucuses will hold their meetings. Popular participatory Artists' Workshops will be back! Our panel at CAA is "Art and Social Activism to Combat a Rising Tide of Nationalism," chaired by Past President Susan King—watch for the Call For Proposals on the CAA website. We welcome your input and participation in all these areas, and more!

**Margo Hobbs, PhD**  
WCA President  
[president@nationalwca.org](mailto:president@nationalwca.org)

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## HOW TO USE WCA TO THE FULLEST

By Margaret Parker, WCA VP of Communications

**Did you know that WCA is an all-volunteer organization?** We have one part time, very hard working Director of Operations, Karin Luner, and all the rest of our accomplishments can be chalked up to you, the MEMBERS. This is a network of 21 chapters and Members-at-Large supported by a national core. This network works for you...when you work for it.

Want to exhibit your work across the country? Join the **Exhibitions Committee** and make it happen. Just starting a career out of college? Join the **Young Women's Caucus** and find a band of your peers. Ever dreamed of sitting in at the United Nations? Join the **International Caucus** and see how it's done. Need to know how to market your work? Sign up with the **Communications Committee** and dig in big time.

I started in Michigan with a group of women who wanted to make art that addressed our needs and vision, and wanted to reach beyond our state. We opened a WCA chapter and learned every inch of the way. Seven years later, I've shown my work in many states, met artists and curators, historians and friends, learned what I didn't know I didn't know, all thanks to what I put in to the WCA. Sign up with a national committee to get the hands-on experience you need.

**Committees:** Exhibitions, **Noreen Dresser**; Membership, **Laura Morrison**; Communications, **Margaret Parker**; Student Clubs, **Sondra Schwetman**

**Caucuses:** Young Women's Caucus (YWC), **Bianca Lago**; Eco-Arts, **Marcia Wood**, International Caucus, **Linda Basha Brookshire** and **Debra Claffey**; Jewish Women Artists' Network (JWAN), **Reva Solomon**.



Image: Margaret Parker at the WCA Book Table at CAA, 2018 WCA Conference in LA

### Noreen Dresser Renews Exhibitions Committee

Noreen Dean Dresser, former WCA president from New York City, is renewing the Exhibitions Committee to organize an event for the 2019 conference. More exhibitions are being planned for

the next 3 years building up to the centennial celebration in Chicago in 2022. Noreen's looking for participation from all areas of the country. She invites you to join the committee, emphasizing, "Our nation-wide network of chapters is our strength!"

Contact Noreen at: [NoreenDeanD@gmail.com](mailto:NoreenDeanD@gmail.com)

## QUICK LOOK: WCA IN PHILADELPHIA

Meeting with Philadelphia Chapter at High 5 Gallery  
[www.high5gallery.com](http://www.high5gallery.com)



## Gallery Talk

WCA Philadelphia member Sarah Bloom spoke to the board about her solo show, *The Impermanence of Being*, at the Da Vinci Art Alliance.

Sarah Bloom at [www.sarahrbloom.com](http://www.sarahrbloom.com)

DaVinci Art Alliance

Review: DaVinci Art Alliance presents Sarah R. Bloom's 'The Impermanence of Being,' Being there by Anndee Hochman

Image: Chrysalis by Sarah Bloom



Touring the workshop of the Fabric Museum and Workshop



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### **Books we were reading for pleasure during the Summer Board Meeting**

**Chicana/o Remix/ Art and Errata Since the Sixties** by Mary Katherine Davelos, WCA President's Awardee, 2012 - Sandra Mueller

**Behave** by Robert M. Sapolsky - Bianca Lago, *"It actually made me laugh out loud on the plane."*

**The Marble Faun** by Nathaniel Hawthorne - Julia Marsh, *"Dredges up questions of good and evil."*

**Oryx and Crake** by Margaret Atwood - Sondra Schwetman, *"a new genetically developed race adopts a very interesting creation mythology."*

**Generals of the Civil War** - Linda Schneider, for her collection of civil war books

**American Journal: Fifty Poems for Our Time**, edited by Tracy K. Smith - Margaret Parker, *"Eloquent story poems collected by our current woman Poet Laureate."*

**The Dinner Party** by Judy Chicago - Laura Morrison, *"I was fascinated to see how the project evolved from a small solo project into an installation requiring teams of people to complete the work."*

**On Tyranny: Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century** by Timothy Snyder - Noreen Dresser, *"A small book I'm giving to all my friends."*

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### **Good food and conversation!**

Dinner with the Philadelphia Chapter and Philly Cheese Steaks!



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## **Review:** Ursula von Rydingsvard, *The Contour of Feeling* at the Fabric Workshop and Museum

By Julia Marsh, [WCA President Elect](#)

The exhibition [Ursula von Rydingsvard, \*The Contour of Feeling\*](#) features sculptural works made over a 22-year period by this enigmatic artist. The works, primarily raw and calculated constructions of cedar beams, are powerful markers of abstracted emotion, grounded in her personal experience growing up in occupied Poland during World War II and the following six years living in refugee camps. The intensely expressive quality of all her works reveals how overwhelming feelings can be, while some works like *Ocean Floor*, 1996, a carved out wooden lifeboat-like structure, and *Untitled (stacked blankets)*, 2014, evoke inventions necessitated by deprivations, that are all too cumbersome for the task.





On view thru Thru August 28, 2018  
[Fabric Workshop and Museum](#)

Photos: Top-*Untitled (stacked blankets)*, 2014, cow intestines, string, 11.25 x 64.125 x 44.625", Bottom- *Droga*, 2009, Cedar graphite, 4.5' x 9' 7" x 18' 3" (Credit: Julia Marsh)

## How Artists in Philly Make a Difference

By Margaret Parker

Gloria Chernyakhovsky is not only a new member of the [Philadelphia Women's Caucus for Art](#), but a Media Arts and Technology Specialist for the School District of Philadelphia. On Tuesday, June 19, approximately 100 volunteers renovated her school's well-loved yet under-resourced Instructional Media Center into an engaging Makerspace – a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) hub for creating and learning. [AbbVie Foundation](#) and [Heart of America](#), through a grant, have provided the Makerspace with new furniture, artwork and small tools that teach circuitry, coding, and creation to help students to learn and grow. Gloria has also sought out additional funding for the Makerspace through [Donorschoose.org](#) and [The School District of Philadelphia's Office of the Arts](#).



The renovated Instructional Media Center will benefit the approximately 1,440 students who attend the school, as well as faculty, community groups, and families who will enjoy the new technology aimed at enhancing STEAM learning. The Makerspace will provide new technology to the school including 3D printers, advanced material cutting

devices and iPad peripheral devices to enhance applications. Volunteers will also install new pods for breakout learning activities and paint a large-scale mural celebrating the city of Philadelphia, as well as beautify other areas of the school.

**Contact Gloria Chernyakhovsky**

**Link: Philly school's old library reborn as STEM-centered 'Makerspace'**

Photo: Mayor Kinney of Philadelphia, visiting Gloria Chernyakhovsky's classroom

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## **NEED A FIDUCIARY? WCA CAN HELP!**

Have you ever wanted to apply for a grant only to discover that, as an individual artist, you will need an organization to back you up? The good news is the Women's Caucus for Art can act as a financial sponsor and can offer project management services as a 501(c)(3) organization. Here are the guidelines for partnering with the WCA to make your project or grant come to life.

[Download Guidelines](#)

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## **FEATURED ARTIST: JULY 2018**

**Kathleen Thoma, Southern California Chapter**

You can see Thoma's artwork on the WCA homepage at [nationalwca.org](http://nationalwca.org).  
[www.kathleenthomaart.com](http://www.kathleenthomaart.com)



Image: Infinite Sanctum, monotype& collage, 14x11 in

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**Correction:** We apologize for misspelling Featured Artist Maundy Mitchell's name in the June Issue of PULSE. You can see Mitchell's artwork at [www.maundymitchell.com](http://www.maundymitchell.com).

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## A Bright String of Flags



Photo: Margaret with a sample of the flag design.

At the Summer Board meeting, we were thinking of ways to heighten awareness of the 21 WCA chapters at the annual conference. A fluttering string of prayer flags came to mind, and I thought each chapter could design a flag of their own and the whole string would be on display throughout the conference.

**Here's the deal:** A chapter member designs an image that fits your chapter's spirit and your place in a 10"h x 8"w vertical format. At the bottom left corner, put your chapter logo, about 1" high, and all along the bottom put the name of your state or area, also about 1" high, or whatever size fills the space. Take a photo and save it as a JPG, 10" x 8" at 300 dpi. Send me the image and I'll print each one on fabric and string all the chapter flags together.

**Email your image** to me, Margaret Parker, [mparkerst@gmail.com](mailto:mparkerst@gmail.com). Put "*Chapter Flag, your Chapter's Name,*" in the subject line. Send in your image by January 15, 2019.

**Let's show everyone what we're made of!**

## **PULSE NEWSLETTER: SUBMIT YOUR CHAPTER NEWS**

**Send your WCA chapter success stories** in 100 words or less and a juicy photo jpg at 72 dpi (include photo credits and descriptions) to PULSE editor, Margaret Parker by the 15th of each month. If your story is longer, send a short intro and a PDF of the full piece we can link to. We are always seeking interesting stories for future issues. We invite all member to pitch ideas.

You can also send out your national WCA Calls for Art through the PULSE. Get artists from around the country entering your shows!

**Looking forward to hearing from you!**

**Margaret Parker**, WCA E-Newsletter Editor and WCA Communications VP  
[mparkerst@gmail.com](mailto:mparkerst@gmail.com)

## **SIGN UP FOR AMAZON SMILE AND HELP BENEFIT WCA**

If you shop at Amazon, consider signing up for Amazon Smile and designate the donated proceeds to The Women's Caucus for Art.

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**GET CONNECTED, STAY CONNECTED**

The mission of the Women's Caucus for Art is to create community through art, education, and social activism



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