



Artlines

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Triannual Newsletter
Spring 2006

Greetings from the President

Jennifer Colby, PhD, President



First I want to congratulate the Boston and Northeast chapters for an excellent National Conference. The exceptional panels brought together by Karen Frostig, Kathy A. Halmaka

and Cindy Runge filled two visually stimulating days with thought provoking discussions. The panels were video taped and will be available for purchase, and the panelists will be featured in a forth coming book: "Blaze: Discourse on Art, Women and Feminism". Our articles feature the upcoming New York Conference and the Feminist Art Project.

Take a look inside this newsletter for the reports from each chapter and region across the United States to get a glimpse of the health of the WCA today. New chapters are forming in Alaska, Hawaii and Louisiana and our membership base has grown over the past two years. Numerous lecturers, exhibitions and events produced by the chapters have been documented to demonstrate our contribution as a Non-Governmental Organization of the United Nations to ending discrimination against women internationally.

As your new National Board President for 2006 - 08, I am looking forward to bringing my skills in non-profit management, and a lifetime of dedication to advancing women in the arts, to leading the Women's Caucus for Art. With a doctorate in Humanities, exploring the role of women in religion and the arts, I teach Culture and Equity classes and Service Learning for the Liberal Studies department at California State University, Monterey Bay. I have also directed a gallery of women's contemporary art for 14 years and continue my own work as an artist and community activist. The Women's Caucus for Art has been important to me since I joined in San Francisco in 1987 and co-founded the

Monterey Bay chapter in 1990. When I joined the National Board in 2002 as a chapter's council representative I found an invigorated group of women ready to lead the organization. It is a privilege to work with all of you.

Founded in 1972, WCA's mission to expand opportunities and recognition for women in art has led the organization to create a network of support in our vibrant chapters to carry out this mission. In 2007 we will celebrate 35 years as a force in the feminist movement, this is a great accomplishment, to be recognized with other organizations that were founded in the fervor of change in the early 1970's. We will also be looking forward with the Feminist Art Project to actions in the future that will insure continuing change for justice in our society. In the SeeChange article I reflect on the notion of artist as citizen and women creating art with their communities. The WCA has a past to celebrate and a future to look forward to as we embrace the activism of new generations, and recognize the hard won accomplishments of women in the arts.

Marilyn Hayes, President Elect 2008-10

I profoundly appreciate you giving me the opportunity to serve as your President-Elect. I am excited and energized by the challenge of working with all of you. Approaching our 35th anniversary in 2007, WCA is moving forward in a changing world to renew our founders' commitment to supporting women in the arts. I look forward to working with Jennifer Colby on this and other initiatives. Together we can build on the momentum from the 35th anniversary to take WCA into the future, and continue to expand opportunities and recognition for women in the arts. I see WCA as a dynamic force in the lives of women in the arts now and in the coming millennium. Finally, I will continue to work with WCA's Chapter Network to foster communication among our chapters. Over the last year, using this link, chapter presidents and representatives from all over the country have shared wonderful ideas and information.

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Conference Report

The WCA Boston Chapter is very pleased to deliver a report describing the successful creation of the 34th Annual Conference, held at the Boston Sheraton, February 19-21, 2006.

The Boston Conference included:

- a productive National Board and Chapters' Council Meeting;
- two days of excellent panel programming and an international festival of video shorts;
- an impressive national exhibition juried by Raphaela Platow, Curator of the Rose Museum at Brandeis University and by Wendy Tarlow Kaplan, which was installed in the Kniznick Gallery at the Brandeis University Women Studies Research Center. Kathy A. Halamka, Caroline Bagenal, and Estelle Yarinsky were presented with the Jurors' Award of Distinction;
- an elegant LAA Benefit Dinner at the Sheraton Hotel, replete with an entertaining and poignant Honoree Award Ceremony;
- a culminating electric keynote address by Coco Fusco from Columbia University, who discussed her latest project regarding the use of women in the military.

In addition to these events, Conference Co-chairs Kathy A. Halamka, Karen Frostig, and Cynthia Runge introduced new elements such as: pre-conference, off-site panels, a formal convocation ceremony; a book table featuring assorted titles by and about panelists and honorees; a 25-hour audio-visual tape documenting the entire conference (expected to be sold on the national and local web-site) and an open-mic/annual meeting session, soliciting valuable input from eloquent WCA members. It should be noted that the conference also produced five additional exhibitions at various local venues that ran concurrently with the conference, representing a superb collection of artists and a diverse body of work.

At the start of the conference, Kathy A. Halamka and Karen Frostig announced the fortuitous opportunity to co-edit a new book, entitled *Blaze: Discourse on Art, Women and Feminism*. The book, to be published by Cambridge Scholars Press (UK), is expected to capture the dynamic content infused throughout the conference.

The conference will be reviewed in at least one local newspaper, a podcast and possibly other forums. Conference organizers expect many collaborative projects to grow out of this extraordinary mix of minds. Initial tallies indicate that we had 180 attendees.

Conference co-chairs and committee members want to thank Laura Morrison, Regional VP for creating our conference program, and the Central Mass chapter for assembling the "designer" hospitality totes and to all the volunteers who helped the Boston chapter pull together the multitude of tasks required to orchestrate this national conference. The conference represents woman power at its very finest.

The Boston steering committee has begun to capitalize on the wild surge of energy generated by the conference and is currently outlining innovative programming for early spring, in an effort to continue to grow chapter membership.

Kathy A. Halamka, Chapter President
Karen Frostig and Cynthia Runge, Conference Co-Chairs



left to right: Priscilla Otani, Judith Roth, Debra Claffey, Sandra Mueller, Karen Frostig and Barbara Wolanin (photo: Karin Luner)

At the **2006 Chapter's Council Meeting** in Boston, representatives from a majority of the chapters met at two breakfast meetings and the Open Mic session, and a group continued the discussion over lunch. We had only an hour at the two 7:30 a.m. meetings (thanks to everyone for getting there on time) but we got a lot accomplished. Each chapter representative introduced herself and described highlights of the year and shared copies of newsletters and president's reports.

On Tuesday we unanimously elected five people to represent chapters on the national board for the next three years. We were successful in electing several people from chapters not already represented on the board—Debra Claffey from New Hampshire, Karen Frostig from Boston, Sandra Mueller from Southern California, Priscilla Otani from Northern California, and Judith Roth from Chicago—all with excellent chapter leadership experience and brimming with ideas and enthusiasm.

We made plans to help Karin Luner fill out and expand the national website. Allison Constantino will gather quotes from women about what WCA has meant to them and why it is important. Sandra Mueller will work with Eleanor Dickinson and Ann Isolde on current statistics. We need a good history of the organization, and I will work with Dale Osterle, Karen Frostig, and Barbara Aubin on this, with help from founders like Mary Garrard and Judith Brodsky. It will be important to have the website as complete and meaningful as possible for the 35th anniversary and all of the attention on feminist art in 2007.

B. Wolanin, VP for Chapter Relations

Note:

If you have materials to share please submit to:
Barbara Wolanin at bwolanin@comcast.net

Errata:

The caption under the picture in the South Bay Area Chapter News in the last *Artlines* should have read: "Julie Newdall at the entry to the Florence Biennale in front of a sculpture created by Carole Fuerman".

The caption in the *Lifetime Achievement Catalogue* under the work of Eleanor Antin "El Desdichado" should have included: "detail (14' H x 25' W x 6" D) from a sculptural installation painted honeycomb board, wood, rope, 9 life size hanging men, 1 skeleton with drum (not shown)

LAA Report

The 28th Annual Lifetime Achievement Awards (LAA) marked the culmination of the 2006 National Conference on Tuesday evening, February 21. The conference, *Digging Deeper to Find New Paradigms*, hosted by the Boston Chapter, included a profoundly substantive series of panels and events and provided a clear framework for the annual awards ceremony. This year the LAA selection committee awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award to conceptual artist, Eleanor Antin; sculptor, Marisol; art historian, Elinor Gadon; and, multi-media artist, Yayoi Kusama. The presentation of awards, made by friends and colleagues of the awardees, constituted the greater part of the ceremony. An audience of more than eighty dinner guests and many more attendees for the public ceremony listened as Lucy Soutter introduced Eleanor Antin, Carey Lovelace presented the work of Marisol, Mary-Ann Milford-Lutzker introduced Elinor Gadon, and Honor Awards Committee Chair Susan King Obarski made a presentation on the career of Yayoi Kusama. Both, Eleanor Antin and Elinor Gadon, were present to receive their awards, bringing humor and heart-felt nostalgia to the proceedings. The audience enjoyed a thoughtful and informative presentation of the remarkable accomplishments of these women. The ceremony closed with the presentation of the 2006 President's Award to Dr. Maura Reilly, Curator of the Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art at the Brooklyn Museum. (Note: Maura Reilly also serves on the National Committee of The Feminist Art Project in which WCA is a program partner. See page 6 for more information on The Feminist Art Project.)

Opening Remarks: Dena Muller, National Board President, 2004-2006

As the outgoing National Board President of the Women's Caucus for Art, I would like to welcome you to the 28th Annual Lifetime Achievement Awards. Each year since we began in Jimmy Carter's Oval Office in 1979, we come together to recognize and celebrate the remarkable accomplishments of women in the visual arts. This year is no different and we are pleased you are here to celebrate with us. In getting ready for tonight's event through learning more about the lives of our awardees, my thoughts kept running to notions of radicalism. We are entering a naturally self-reflective time of anniversaries, hallmarks and inaugurations in the women's movement and that reflection is characterized by a renewed understanding of the ways that feminism and the achievements of women have radicalized all



Left to right: Mary-Ann Milford-Lutzker, Kerry Reilly, Dena Muller, Lucy Soutter, Eleanor Antin, Elinor Gadon, Jennifer Colby, Coco Fusco, Maura Reilly, Carey Lovelace, Susan Obarski (photo: Beth Fridinger)

the realms in which they have endeavored. However, we also live in very complicated times where our historical understanding of radicalism, rooted in progressive, socially-minded activism is constantly being challenged by current uses of a concept of radicalism with a much more destructive agenda. We puzzle over the repetitive use in the media and popular culture of phrases such as "judicial activism", "religious extremism", "radical fundamentalism" and know that behind each resides an aggressive intention to deconstruct all the humanistic advancement of a previous generation's progressive radicalism. Tonight we have the opportunity to revel in that earlier, more humane version. Robert Frost wrote, "When I was young, I never dared to be radical for fear that when I was old it would make me conservative". Tonight we celebrate the professional lives of six women who have dared to be radical and resisted conservatism. For our four Lifetime Achievement Awardees, Eleanor Antin, Marisol Escobar, Elinor Gadon and Yayoi Kusama, we are inspired tonight by recollections of the initial creative impulses at the beginning of their careers and the continuity of that creative energy through to today. Maura Reilly, the recipient of the this year's President's Award, reassures us of a sure footing into the future for women in the arts as she insists on a thorough and critical analysis of race, class, gender and sexuality in her work and in her collaborations with others. And Coco Fusco is here to dazzle us with old school radicalism made new school through her current projects. So sit back, be our guests at your own party, and share in this celebration of the continuity from then to now.

The National Board thanks the following WCA members and chapters for their generous support for the Lifetime Achievement Awards in response to our fundraising letter. Thank you!

Linda Adreveno	Barbara Cosentino	Sharon L Irish	Mary Maughelli	Launa D. Romoff
Marcia Annenberg	Joyce Cutler-Shaw	Ann Isolve	Marilyn McKay	Nancy Rosen
Carolyn Applegate	Patricia Davis	J.M. Janda	Eleanor Munro	Rachel Rosenthal
Barbara Aubin	Liz Dodson	Marie Johnson Calloway	Susan Obarski	Jacqueline Ross
Lynn Babior	Alice Dubiel	Joanna Katz	Marcelle H. Pachnowski	Ann W. Rowles
Judy Baca	Linda Everson	Gail Keyes Goodwin	Barbara Papish	& Atlanta Chapter
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Priscilla Birge	Mary D. Garrard	Peggy Lipschutz	Helen Poole Newman	Laurie Sheridan
Lynnette K. Black	Sylvia Gehres	C.J. Lori	Sherry Rabbino	Barbara T. Smith
Bette Blayton-Taylor	Dac Gullicksen	Margaret Lutze	Erena Rae	Ann Sutherland Harris
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Judith K. Brodsky	Marilyn J. Hayes	Jone Small Manoogian	Paula Rendino	Ruth Weisberg
Karen Carasik	Helen Hickey	M.G. Martin	Carol M. Rensink	Marian Press Yap
Jennifer Colby	Wilhelmina Holladay	Edith Omra Martin	Carmela Rizzuto	

Regional News

New Hampshire – is currently participating in a collaborative exhibit “Connections and Collaborations: New Ways For Artists to Communicate” initiated by the Library Arts Center (LAC) in Newport in conjunction with The Artists & Artisans of Goshen, NH. The show opens March 24th and runs through April 29th, 2006. The chapter’s archived Artist Trading Cards are a featured part of this collaboration by women both locally and nationally. Several members were juried into the Bunker Hill Community College exhibit that took place during the National Conference in Boston. C. M. Judge moderated the panel discussion on “Co-creating Identity Through Art”, which included another NH member, Elsa Voelcker, as well as Paula Rendino Zaentz and Cathy McLaurin. Member-at-large: Janet King and VP : Debbie Skinner-Perez were interviewed by CCTV in Concord for a seven minute spot featuring WCA-NH on their Arts Telefest Day that aired March 26th at 5pm and featured the 10th Anniversary CD of retrospective photos, exhibits and events compiled by Laura Morrison and Donna Catanzaro. Deb Claffey was elected as Chapters Council Representative for the Northeast for the next three years. The chapter will participate in *Open Doors Trolley Night* April 27th at Millyard South Studios, Langer Place in Manchester. WCA-NH looks forward to *Fiddles and Food*, a college scholarship fundraiser event scheduled for May 6th.

Connecticut – Our chapter has hit the ground running. We already had Step 1- *My Art is Done, what do I do next?* part of our Professional Development Series. Step 2 is coming up in May dealing with the gallery venue. Topics like: how to approach galleries with your work, how to get representation, pricing, and how to get into collections will be covered. February brought us to a panel in a one day conference on “Women & Justice” at the Norwalk Community College. Four of our members gave presentations on the theme: Jeannie Thomma, Janet Luongo and Lynne Knobel moderated by Gloria Santoyo Ruenitz. In March we are having our first exhibition of the year at the Starpin Gallery in celebration with Women’s History Month. The exhibition is called “A Woman’s Place”. March 23 we were part of another presentation panel in celebration of the *Women’s Past and Present* Program at the Mattatuck Museum in Waterbury, CT. Our film “Women Make Art” was previewed at the beginning of the program, followed by presentations by WCA-CT artists Anne Eisner, Jeannie Thomma, Diana Chamberlain and Gloria Santoyo Ruenitz. There was also a reception for the artists and a session of questions and answers. Next month we will be celebrating Spring with our show “Flower Power” at the City Lights Gallery in Bridgeport, CT. In the works: a new exhibition planned for July with a “Fibonacci” theme.

Philadelphia – WHO WE ARE, the Philadelphia-WCA’s collaborative book project will be a part of the 2006 Bibliotheca Alexandrina International Biennial for the Artist’s Book taking place in Alexandria, Egypt. There are still a few remaining copies of this unique work for sale, if interested, please contact phila_wca@yahoo.com. We just finished the WCA Members’ exhibition “Beginnings,” at the Holy Family University Gallery, at their northeast Philadelphia Campus, 9801 Frankford Avenue. Members Michelle Wilson and Virginia Maksymowicz conducted a series of workshops on printmaking and papermaking. This July

we will launch THE DRESS PROJECT, a WCA Public Art Project organized and curated by Diana Riukus. The DRESS PROJECT will be on display at Highwire Gallery in July this summer, along with other works by WCA members. See page 6.

Florida – WCA Florida Chapter’s Second Annual “Heart & Sole” fundraiser in February at Scott Laurent Collection raised over \$700 for each of the following organizations: the American Heart & Stroke Associations, Hospice of the Comforter, and The Kitty Peterson Scholarship Fund, in honor of former member who passed from cancer. WCA members and non-members created works of art out of wooden hearts and shoes. Go to www.wcafl.org for photos of hearts currently for sale. In April, our first “Men of WCA” show featuring the artwork of five male WCA Florida Chapter members will open April 16th and run through May 15th, 2006 at Austin’s Coffee & Film in Winter Park. Also in April, our chapter will feature eight WCA Florida Chapter members (Annette Margulies, Gale Stuart, Gretchen Despard, Karen Carasik, David Durk, Phyllis Ross, Dave Dodson and Carrie Perman) at Borders in Winter Park. Bonnie Sprung, WCA Florida’s Past President, finished installing over 1,400 tiles (25 feet of tiles) created by children and seniors in the community for Jewish Arts Week 2006 at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Orlando. Bonnie finished off the 100 foot wall with a painted mural that extended the mosaic design of a stylized Jerusalem. Go to www.jewishartsweek.org for info and photos.

The **Minnesota Chapter** has a new Co-chair, Lynnette Black, to replace Liz Dodson. Jill Waterhouse remains on at least temporarily, as the continuing MN Chapter Co-chair. This month the Chapter will have an onsite visit to a state-of-the-art digital scanning facility Digigraphics for each member to view one of their art works scanned with the latest scanning technology. Reminder, if your WCA chapter is interested in hosting the “A Place at the Table” Exhibit, check out the website www.wcaartmn.org and contact Liz Dodson at Ldodson@Qwest.net for more info on how to become part of this exciting traveling exhibit about diversity.

The St. Louis Chapter – At the March membership meeting Chapter President Janice Nesser shared all the exciting news from the National conference, and talked about the needs to establish stronger ties to National. After much discussion two ideas were implemented by the membership that had been discussed at Chapter Council: a student/hardship scholarship that would be subsidized by donations (The person receiving the scholarship

would be required to volunteer 10 hours toward chapter activities); and, requiring members to volunteer hours to the chapter. Both of these changes were seen by members as “a catalyst to promoting a stronger voice in the organization” and “a vested interest in its future.” STL-WCA sponsored a lecture and disperse dye demonstration by local artist and WCA member Pat Owoc. Owoc’s recent work has been of three types -- botanical designs using disperse dye



Pat Owoc with quilt

on polyester fabric; whimsical pieces, including a number utilizing plastic trash bags; and works reminiscent of the Kansas prairie of her childhood. There is an element of storytelling in most of her work. Owoc creates fiber art from a wide variety of found, discarded, and distressed materials -- the cast-offs of modern times. Plastic bags, rusty nails and barbed wire, antique photographs, painted ragged fabrics and polyester fabric, and a variety of surface design techniques are utilized in Owoc's work. On Friday March 24, the member's only exhibition "Diverse Voices" opened at the Left Bank Book Gallery, 399 North Euclid. The exhibition featured "small works" by 24 members of the St. Louis Chapter. The exhibition runs through April 30.

Iowa – Our IWCA chapter is growing. We have been having some of same issues that other chapters have reported. We are seriously considering some of the solutions offered by the other chapters. As we grow I hope we will be able to expand the work load better. I'm finding that sometimes we are not asking for help when we should be doing so. We have several members exhibiting in the next few weeks: Val Nepsha won a grant for an exhibit in Hammond, IN; Henni Akkermann at the Spurious Fugitive Gallery; Lea Goldman's exhibit opens soon at the Jewish Federation of St Joseph County; Anna Bowers has an exhibit at the First Presbyterian Church of Mishawaka; and Anne Binder is director of the newly opened Studio Arts Center, a space for exhibition, performance, and classes that include poetry.

Colorado – Exciting news!! Two shows open to national members sponsored by the Colorado Chapter: June 16 - July 29, 2006, "Contemporary Icons: Symbols and Signs of the Times", and January 15, 2007, "Kitchen Goddess". for prospecti visit the Colorado Chapter website: <http://www.wcaco.org>

Monterey Bay – MBWCA held a February Tea to honor Chapter Founder Jennifer Colby and send her off to Boston for her installation as National WCA President. Beginning in April, five membership exhibits are scheduled during the year. Our Art and Healing group held a mini-conference, "Art as Healing on the Edge" and "Experience in Altered Imagery", held on the vernal equinox, March 21st. The conference included a presentation of leading-edge theory and case examples of pioneering work in the field of art and healing in hospitals with cancer patients and as a private healing practice. Patient-artists from the local hospital became human easels to display their artwork and tell about their experience of using art for healing. Local artists shared their altered imagery and, during the final session, "Off the Wall and From the Floor" attendees were invited to hang and present their artwork as an example of art and healing.

Northern California – The NCWCA has two concurrent shows in March: selected works from the show entitled "Violence Against Women, Women Against Violence," (WAV) was exhibited at Santa Clara University's Gallery of the Department of Art and Art History from February 15-March 15. Works by 15 NCWCA artists are being exhibited at the Alameda Art Center from March 3-31. Attached is the invitation for this show. Our March topic was censorship. Eleanor Dickinson presented slides of a show on censored art (commissioned artwork in many cases) and we had a lively debate on this subject.

Southern California – There is so much wonderful news to share from Southern California. "Exhibitions" is gearing up for a 2006 Curator's Choice show in June in our office/gallery that is being curated by member Michele Cairella, Fullerton College Gallery Director. "Programs" is hosting a Gallery Talk with

painter Takako Yamaguchi and Gallerist Jan Baum on March 25th, followed by a Digital Image Workshop in late April at Colortek DigitalPlus Labs, and a May 12th Members-Only Tour of Peter Norton's Collection at the Rand Corporation in Santa Monica. Starting in May, our communication will shift to a strictly email delivery of our newsletter. And finally, thanks to the networking and panel presentations at the WCA Conference in Boston, we learned of The Feminist Art Project, of which Sandra Mueller, President, is now one of the Regional Coordinators for Southern California.

Oregon – Last summer the Oregon chapter sponsored a successful colograph workshop at the studio of artist/member Ellen Emerson. The workshop was given by Seattle member Barbara Bruch. Twelve participants spent a weekend making colographs using many different techniques on Ellen's press. In October, seven of us gathered at the studio of artist/member Zel Brook in Corvallis for a weekend retreat. We taught each other some new techniques and had a wonderful art-share. It was great to meet some of our members from south of Portland. After a slump in membership following our big Korea/Oregon cultural exchange at Portland State University in 2004, the chapter has experienced a resurgence of energy from new members. The latest example of our work is a group show celebrating Women's History Month at the Janovec Gallery in Portland. Many attended the opening on March 3rd, which we dedicated to feminist activist Betty Friedan. We read some of her quotes and her biography. The show was entitled "Through Women's Eyes". Our next adventure is a follow-up to our exchange with the women artists of Daegu, Korea. In September, Madeline Janovec and Una Kim will travel to Korea for the opening of our third joint show with these artists. The show will open September 11th and artists from Oregon and SW Washington will exhibit along with artists from Daegu. The 20 member chapter is currently being coordinated by Harriet Levi and Madeline Janovec. To contact us, e-mail Harriet: amelia693@yahoo.com or Maddie: madojano@aol.com

National WCA News:

Raffle Prize

This year's raffle prize was a print donated by Ruth Weisberg which brought in \$1120. We would like to express our thanks to Ruth, Dale Osterle, Riko Takata and all the Board Members who sold tickets. The lucky winner was Rhoda Juels, a member of the Boston Chapter.

Nominations Process for the Lifetime Achievement Awards

All WCA Members and Chapters are invited to add nominees to the database used by the Lifetime Achievement Awards Selection Committee. Nominees must be women who work in any aspect of the visual or performance arts. While the awards each year are given to women who are 65 years old or older, the Honors Chair maintains a database of all women who should be considered by the Selection Committee now or in the future. To include someone for consideration by the committee, please email her name, contact information, birthday and short biographical statement (or available partial information) to Honors Chair, Dena Muller at denamuller@nationalwca.org.

Office Move

We are glad to announce that we have moved the first files to our new office at Rutgers University. It will take some time to get the office established but this was a happy step forward into the future of being once again under the umbrella of a university. We are sharing space in the office of Isabel Nazario, Associate Vice President for Academic and Public Partnership, Arts and Humanities. We give special thanks to Judy Brodsky and Ferris Olin for facilitating the office move.

NYC Conference 2007

The College Art Association and the Feminist Art Project

On Saturday, February 17, 2007 in New York, as part of The Feminist Art Project and the College Art Association Annual Conference, art historians Arlene Raven and Anne Swartz have organized a day of panels on Feminism and women in the arts. The seven one-hour panels are open sessions of the CAA Conference. Starting at 9:00am, the panel topics are: *Are We There Yet? The Status and Impact of Second and Third Wave Feminism, Women's Art, The Women's Art Movement, and "Feminist Art"* (Chairs: Arlene Raven and Anne Swartz); *Feminism, Women and Museum* (Chair: Elizabeth Mansfield); *As the Feminine Became Public (or) Regendering Public Art* (Chair: Suzanne Lacy); *Back to the Front* (Chair: Helena Reckitt); *Occupying our Hearts: Performing Self-Transformation through Feminist Art* (Chair: Joanna Frueh); *"Life of the Mind, Life of the Market": A reevaluations of the Contribution of Theory to Feminist Art from 1980 to 2006* (Chair: Mira Schor); and, *American Art and Sexual Trauma* (Chair: Viven Fryd).

The day of panels is enhanced by several activities scheduled throughout the CAA Conference and the weekend. An opening event for The Feminist Art Project will be held at A.I.R. Gallery, on the evening of Thursday, February 15 in conjunction with A.I.R. Founding Member Daria Dorosh's solo exhibition, *The Changing Room: Object and Metaphor*. On Friday evening, February 16, the opening reception for *Agents of Change: Women, Art and Intellect*, an exhibition curated by Leslie King-Hammond of the Maryland Institute College of Art will be held at Ceres Gallery. And as a culmination of the day of panels, the Women's Caucus for Art and the College Art Association's Committee on Women in the Arts will co-host their annual award ceremonies. WCA's Lifetime Achievement Awards, customarily held as a satellite event to the CAA Conference, and the CWA event held as a special session of the CAA Conference will come together in 2007 for a gala celebration of the accomplishments of women in the arts.

The Feminist Art Project (TFAP)

The Feminist Art Project invites you to plan and participate in activities that celebrate women's contributions to art and the Feminist Art Movement. Its purpose is to bring public attention to their significant impact on contemporary art practice, highlighting their international influence, and guaranteeing inclusion in the cultural record, past, present and future.

Starting in 2006, museums, universities, and other institutions nationally are planning to commemorate several historic anniversaries in the American Women's Art Movement of the 1970s and launch new initiatives to demonstrate the ongoing significance of women's contributions to art. Please join The Feminist Art Project by mounting activities to support this mission. A National Committee, facilitated by Rutgers University, is coordinating activities and conducting a nationwide campaign to publicize all programs related to the mission of The Feminist Art Project. TFAP will include projects already planned and others that will be initiated in response to the Call for Participation. Please go the website at feministartproject.rutgers.edu for more information and to complete the call for participation for any related activities! The next deadline for submissions is June 1, 2006.

WCA is pleased to be a Program Partner in The Feminist Art Project and to have several WCA members active in the Project. Past-President, Dena Muller, serves on the National Committee and as a co-chair for the New York City Region; National Board Liaison to CAA Maria Elena Buszek serves as the Regional Chair for the Kansas City Area; National Board Second VP and Boston Chapter President, Kathy Halamka, serves as the Chair of the Boston/Northeast Region; Board Member Liz

Dodson and MN Chapter Member Jeanne Philipp serve as Co-chairs of the Minnesota Region; and, National Board Member and Southern California Chapter President Sandra Mueller serves as the Regional Chair of Southern California.

Proposals Sought for a WCA National Exhibition in Feb. 2007:

Any member or chapter interested in **planning and implementing** a National Exhibition (juried or curated) to be held in New York City during CAA, The Feminist Art Project, and WCA activities in February of 2007 should contact President Jennifer Colby at president@nationalwca.org with proposals or to volunteer to serve on the national exhibitions committee.

"The Dress Project"

WCA Artist Collaboration and Community Outreach

Submission Deadline: May 30, 2006

WCA member artist, Diana Riukas, received a grant from the 5-County Arts Fund of the Philadelphia Cultural Alliance for her proposal for a collaborative project to be completed in July 2006. She is working in partnership with the Philadelphia Chapter. The goal of the project is to stimulate thinking about topics of interest to the group, which impact us as women artists. Another goal is to help satisfy the mission of WCA, which is to increase awareness and recognition of women in the visual arts through various venues, such as exhibitions, community outreach activities, workshops, and collaborative projects. This project involves drawing, painting, stitching, batik, printmaking, quilting, and writing on individual fabric panels that are then sewn together into a unique larger than life-size sculptural dress. Activities have included a series of member workshops as well as community outreach events in which the public contributed to the collaboration. (for dimensions of panel email Driukas@aol.com)

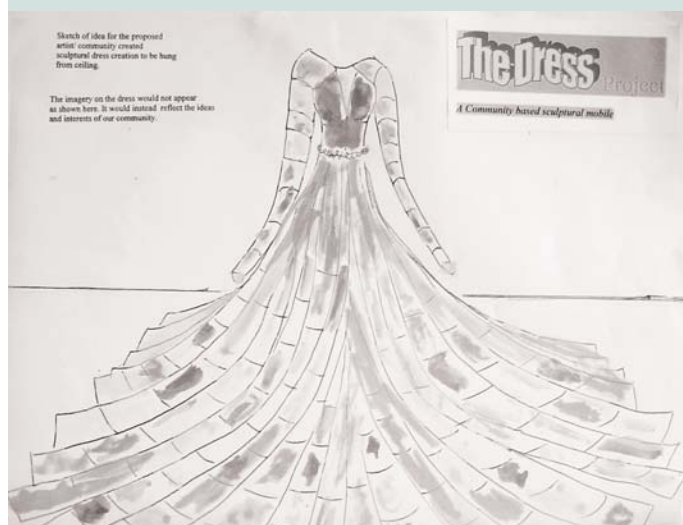
Theme: Imagery which deals with the concept of fabric as it relates to issues of traditional gender roles and stereotypes, in particular pertaining to clothing, traditional sewing arts, and/or personal identity.

Please mail your fabric panel to:

Diana Riukas, P.O. Box 1336, Bristol, PA 19007

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see:change

Making art, promoting the arts and interacting with the public in ways that promote the greater good can become an important civic action, a way of being an artist citizen. The book “Bowling Alone” by Putnam (2000) offers an interesting critique of the participation, or lack of participation, of various generations in the United States. Putnam finds that the days of people gathering in bowling leagues and service clubs may have been superseded by those who “bowl alone”, watch tv, cruise the internet and engage in less and less civic activity. This view into civic participation may provide insight useful to the operation of the WCA, a national organization with numerous chapters engaged in a collaborative effort to change society in the area of the visual arts. The WCA is an organization of professionals, promoting its members’ individual careers, and it is also an organization engaged in the civic action of creating greater recognition and equity for women in the arts, a non-profit organization promoting the greater good.

Putnam’s research notes that the “greatest generation”, those who fought in WWII, were highly civic minded. In their old age they still fill our churches, unions and civic clubs. The Baby Boomers born between 1945 and 1962 were engaged in social change in their youth, but tended to not be joiners; they are the “me generation” that brought the United States out of civic engagement, voting, political parties and organizations. Often this decline is blamed on Generation Xers, those born after 1962 and before 1985, but it really starts with the Boomers. This individualism is encouraged by the “American Dream” of the individual consumer climbing the ladder. (The individual artist promoting her art career). The decline in civic activity begins to turn around with the latest generation, the Millennium Generation, coming of age in 2000. The new surge in civic activity by youth gives hope to Putnam and others.

In the WCA we have been honoring “the greatest generation” in our Lifetime Achievement Awards. The feminist activists who founded the WCA are Baby Boomers, who despite the general population’s trend have been organizationally minded, contributing to the development of the CAA and the WCA. A simple analysis would show that Gen Xers have not found it important to belong to organizations. Some contribute this situation to the success of this generation financially, leading to less need for collective bargaining. But a more complex analysis shows the generation that spawned Third Wave Feminism is not just filled with Gen X yuppies, but a complex mix of new collaborators, multicultural community builders and an explosion of renewed energy devoted, not to traditional civic engagement organizations, but to new alliances. These young women have not joined the WCA in great numbers, but have we joined them? Have we joined the third wave activism that takes art into the community? Have we responded to the demographic change in the U.S. that requires understanding multicultural communities? Many of us have, because if we have joined the WCA to promote the greater good we are unlike those in the general population who have neglected civic action.

In my work teaching Service Learning in a university I come face to face with the Millennium Generation, young students from multicultural communities with a new vision for leadership through service. Service Learning is learning through civic action and service in the community. I attended the National Youth Leadership Service Learning Conference in Philadelphia last

month. A feature of the conference was an activity organized by Michelle Ortiz, our past National VP for Organizational Outreach, who painted our WCA National mural in 2002. Michelle and her organization MYX Multicultural Youth eXchange (works with high school students in Philadelphia and other locations) created a mural on site to be sent to a school devastated by Hurricane Katrina. The young people who contributed to the mural through out the conference were drawn to the power of art to effect community, to the civic minded opportunity to serve and collaborate.

Despite the evidence of a wave of generations who began to “bowl alone”, WCA members have gone against the tide by joining a collaborative effort. Our decline in membership eight years ago may be reflective of the general swing in the population out of collaborative civic-minded efforts. Our increase in membership recently may reflect the general dissatisfaction with the “American Dream” of individualism, a reaffirmation of collectivity that comes out of the recognition of multicultural community values, a youth educated in service learning and civics, and a swing towards joining organizations that can effect change. Do these changes in the population affect the WCA? Are we responding to youth in our communities, to older citizens longing to belong after years in the “me generation”? Can we collectively “bargain” for greater recognition and representation, or are we only focused on promoting our individual art careers? If the WCA can respond to new ways to organize civic engagement, if we not only embrace Third Wave Feminism, but embrace the Tidal Wave of women acting collectively through all generations. If we look to the Millennium Generation for new ways to effect change, not just to individually cruise the internet, but to collectively use technology, public art, and new forms of collaboration, we can use our non-profit organizations to promote the greater good, and grow as citizen artists.

by Jennifer Colby, PhD

News from one of our former WCA Presidents: Gail Tremblay

Her piece “Strawberry and Chocolate” is part of one of the three permanent exhibitions at the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) on the National Mall, Washington, DC
<http://www.nmai.si.edu/subpage.cfm?subpage=exhibitions&second=dc>

Our Lives: Contemporary Life and Identities

Our Lives reveals how residents of eight Native communities—the Campo Band of Kumeyaay Indians (California, USA), the urban Indian community of Chicago (Illinois, USA), Yakama Nation (Washington State, USA), Igloodik (Nunavut, Canada), Kahnawake (Quebec, Canada), Saint-Laurent Metis (Manitoba, Canada), Kalinago (Carib Territory, Dominica), and the Pamunkey Tribe (Virginia, USA)—live in the 21st century. Through their stories, visitors learn about the deliberate and often difficult choices indigenous people make in order to survive economically, save their languages from extinction, preserve their cultural integrity, and keep their traditional arts alive.

The main section of *Our Lives* centers on various layers of identity. For Native people, identity—who you are, how you dress, what you think, where you fit in, and how you see yourself in the world—has been shaped by language, place, community membership, social and political consciousness, and customs and beliefs. But Native identity has also been influenced by a legacy of legal policies that have sought to determine who is Indian and who is not. The issue of Native identity continues to resonate today, as Native people across the Americas seek to claim the future on their own terms.



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Mark Your Calendar!

National Dates	Regional Dates
<p>July 28 - 30, 2006 National WCA Board Meeting in San Juan Bautista, a historic California Mission Town near the Monterey Bay. All board members, committee chairs are encouraged to attend, all WCA members are welcome. More info on our website under the WCA News link.</p>	<p>May 30, 2006 "The Dress Project" organized by Diana Riukas See page 6</p>
<p>Mid-year Raffle Held at the Summer Board Meeting to benefit WCA's Lifetime Achievement Awards. Win a framed and signed archival print of Yolanda Lopez's world famous "Portrait of the Artist as Our Lady of Guadalupe". Tickets will be \$10 each, or \$25 for three.</p>	<p>June 1 - July 15, 2006 Intersections: Locating Acts of Courage An exhibit ponsored by the National Women's Studies Association and the Pacific Region of the Women's Caucus for Art. Info: www.nwsaconference.org</p>
<p>Calling all Chapters- Traveling Exhibition Opportunity to support women artists in New Orleans devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Find a venue in your area for "The Katrina Diaries" by New Orleans WCA with "The Second Line" art by your chapter members in response. First exhibition September 2006 in California; culminating exhibition February 2008 in Dallas at National WCA Conference.</p>	<p>June 1 - July 15, 2006 Satellite Exhibit in San Juan Bautista Monterey Bay WCA "Intersections" at Galeria Tonantzin Info: www.galeriatonantzin.com</p>
	<p>June 4, 2006 Northern California Regional WCA Conference, Oakland, CA Info and registration: www.ncwca.org</p>
	<p>Deadline October 30, 2006 The juried exhibition "Kitchen Goddess" is organized by the Colorado Chapter and open to WCA members. Info: www.wcaco.org or email Suchil Coffman-Guerra at suchil@qwest.net</p>