



WCA E-News



September 2012 Edition

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Stirrings in Seattle

Exciting news! Nancy Coleman, WCA At-Large member living in Seattle wants to revive the Seattle chapter. Interested, potential members, please contact Nancy at n@nancycoleman.com.

Greetings!



One of my favorite activities as National President is to spend time with women from all over the country. In the last few weeks, I've had the pleasure of meeting members of the Southern California chapter at a poolside social; talking with South Bay Area, Peninsula, Monterey Bay, Southern California, New York, and Northern California members at the Honoring Women's Rights conference in Salinas; and hosting members-at-large Chanel Matsunami Govreau and Sherri Cornett at my home in San Francisco. I am always inspired by what you, my fellow WCA members, are involved in, whether you are a chapter member or a member-at-large. Remember that this newsletter is a forum for you. Keep sending me your stories!

Deadlines: WCA Exhibitions



Best of 2012 Members-Only Online Exhibition. Cash prizes! **DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 28**

Bound, National Juried Exhibition at Phoenix Gallery in Chelsea. **DEADLINE OCTOBER 28**

Diaspora, JWAN Juried Exhibition at New Century Artists' Gallery in Chelsea. **DEADLINE NOVEMBER 18**

Don't miss out! Apply here:

Trix Rosen: Woman + Body

Artist Trix Rosen was inadvertently omitted from the August announcement of artists in Woman + Body, our upcoming exhibition in Korea. Many congratulations, Trix and our apologies for the error.

ArtSlant

Brenda Oelbaum is exploring ArtSlant, for possible use as a WCA online gallery site. If you've exhibited work somewhere, it is likely you're already on ArtSlant, even if you never registered with them. Visit ArtSlant and check it out! If you have thoughts to share about ArtSlant, positive or negative, please email Brenda at brendaoelbaum@gmail.com. She is considering making a proposal at the February board meeting.

NY Conference Help Wanted

Our annual conference is made possible through the volunteer efforts of many. When members give their time, helping in even small ways, we can all enjoy the conference and not miss any of the fun. Volunteering is a

www.entrythingy.com/www.nationalwca.org#show=719.

2013 President's Art & Activism Award



WCA is pleased to announce Leanne Stella as the 2013 recipient of the President's Art & Activism Award. In January, 2012, Stella began work on Art in FLUX Harlem when she saw empty storefronts in her neighborhood that she felt could be

used as pop-up exhibition spaces for Harlem artists to showcase their work, and to provide access to the arts in her community.

Prior the Art in FLUX, Stella was the Executive Director at Arts in Reach, which provides mentoring through the arts to teenage girls. The board credited her for increasing awareness, raising funds, developing local partnerships and raising the quality of events during her tenure. Stella also worked at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital as Senior Events Specialist and served as President of Stella Show Management Company for fifteen years.

NYC Conference Sneak Peek

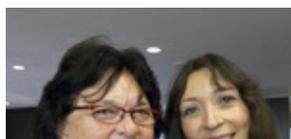


Mark your calendars now for your trip to New York City from February 13 - 17, 2013.

The illustration on the left is a sneak peek of the programs we are developing. Watch for **Building Community** on the National WCA website (www.nationalwca.org). Check

frequently for updates!

Networking at Honoring Women's Rights



More than 100 women attended the WCA Pacific Region Honoring Women's Rights Conference in

wonderful way to make new friends and spread the word about WCA. Here is a help wanted wish list:

- Intake of artwork for Bound
- Intake of artwork for Diaspora
- Market WCA at the CAA book table
- Stuff registration packets
- Register members for the conference
- Register guests at the Lifetime Achievement Award ceremony
- Register guests at the Lifetime Achievement Award gala
- Tour captains for Chelsea galleries
- Pack up artwork for Bound
- Pack up artwork for Diaspora

In a few months Volunteerspot will become available to WCA members so that you can choose a volunteer activity.



The mission of the Women's Caucus for Art is to create community through art, education and social activism. WCA is committed to recognizing the contribution of women in the



Salinas, CA from September 7-9, 2012. This three-day conference was

organized by the Monterey Bay, South Bay Area, Peninsula and Northern California chapters, in celebration of WCA's 40th Anniversary. Friday evening started with a Women's Fair(e) and book-reading by Louise Bernikow. The Saturday conference was packed with featured speakers including California Arts Council Chair Malissa Feruzzi Shriver and Sandra Fluke. The evening featured a reception for the exhibition, *Honoring Women's Rights: Echoing Visual Voices Together*, with many exhibited artists and juror, Patricia Rodriguez, in attendance. Friday's informal farewell brunch allowed attendees and featured speakers to mingle in an informal atmosphere. Connections were made among activist women, connections that will last well beyond this successful conference. Above photo: Judy Baca and Cristina Velazquez, South Bay Area WCA member.

I CAN WE CAN: Participate!



Do this simple thing: decorate your hand with the inspirational words "I CAN," take a photo of it with your

phone or camera, and email the image to Brenda Oelbaum at brendaoelbaum@gmail.com.

WCA is joining forces with 2012 President's Awardee Cathy Salser's A Window Between Worlds (AWBW) and Eve Ensler's One Billion Rising to draw attention to domestic violence. The I CAN WE CAN Solidarity Campaign is dedicated to building solidarity with the arts, social justice, academic, and feminist communities together with domestic violence survivors and the courageous women and men who work in the front lines on this issue.

The February 14, 2013 Lifetime Achievement Awards falls on the same day as Ensler's One Billion Rising global action event. WCA will show its solidarity with AWWB and One Billion Rising by displaying a mosaic of hands projected on the screen during the awards ceremony. So help us make a statement -- send your I CAN Hand Art to Brenda!

SCWCA Summer Social

arts, providing women with leadership opportunities and professional development, expanding networking and exhibition opportunities for women, supporting local, national and global art activism, and advocating for equity in the arts for all.

www.nationalwca.org
[WCA on Facebook](#)



Earlier this summer, I was invited by Niku Kashef, Southern California WCA President, to visit her chapter. I flew down at the end of August

to attend their annual summer social and boy, was I in for a treat! The annual event was hosted by Treasurer Karen Schifman at her beautiful Spanish-style home complete with backyard swimming pool. After a delightful Middle Eastern-style lunch outside, we participated in art-share and a chapter meeting. I had an opportunity to chat with chapter members and leisurely soak in the sun - something I can't often do in foggy San Francisco. I also attended a lovely classical music concert in Malibu Hills with Sandra Mueller and Deborah Thomas. Deborah and I discussed a possible Eco-art program during the New York conference. In addition, I was able to meet with Ulla Barr to plan our chapters rep meeting, and with Susan King to review plans for the Lifetime Achievement Awards. On the day of my departure, Sandra and I had breakfast with this year's President's Awardee Cathy Salser, and we came up with the fabulous collaboration project, I CAN WE CAN (described above.) All in all, a very energizing weekend. Thank you Southern California for your marvelous hospitality!

Sue Ann Hillyer & ART4GIRLSSAKE



Prominently displayed at the National Steinbeck Center during the Honoring Women's Rights Conference was artwork created by members of ART4GIRLSSAKE. This

ART4GIRLSSAKE workshop was developed two years ago by WCA Monterey Bay artist Sue Ann Hillyer, and targets middle school girls from at-risk and under-served communities. The girls explore body image and self esteem, leadership, and image of women in the media. Starting with journaling, the girls begin to get inspired to create art. Their art projects utilize a range of media including collage, photography, poetry, painting, drawing, and watercolor...whatever the girls need to get their creative juices flowing.

Hillyer has watched the girls go from "I can't" to "Yes I can," as they gain insight into who they are and learn what is true and

authentic about themselves. One of the questions asked of the girls is "How do I see myself and how do I think others see me?" This question not only opens up teen self-image issues, but provides opportunities for positive affirmations from the other girls. Hillyer has witnessed profound changes among participants and feels such workshops are great examples of how the arts can be used for insight and healing.

ART4GIRLSAKE provides a much-needed boost for teenagers whose art programs have been eliminated from public schools due to budget cuts. Hillyer believes her program supports the overall education of the girls by boosting self-confidence, teaching teamwork and problem-solving skills, and helping them to grow into women who matter in this world.

As a Community Artist, Hillyer enjoys witnessing the transformations of her participants. She is taking classes in Expressive Arts Therapy to further develop her skills in using the arts, performance and storytelling to help her students.

Congratulations for 2014 CAA Panel Idea



Rachel Epp Buller made the winning suggestion for WCA's 2014 CAA panel idea. Titled Maternal Body Exposed: Fecundity, Birth Control and Countering Infertility in Contemporary Art, the proposed panel examines the ways in which the maternal body operates in contemporary art and

visual culture.

The panel proposal was submitted to CAA, and we now wait to see if our idea will be accepted. Buller was awarded \$150 for developing the proposal.

Contact Information: president@nationalwca.org

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