PRESIDENT'S LETTER
As you receive this, we will be beginning our summer retreat at the Serra Center in Malibu California. A majority of the national board will have a day of visioning on Thursday, June 1 with a large contingent from the Southern California chapter. In the morning, we will bond together to establish the conference and exhibition themes for the WCA national conference in Los Angeles in February 2018. The afternoon will be dedicated to sharing our goals and aspirations as a national organization and as a constellation of related, yet independent local chapters. We hope to establish strategies for more affective communication at all levels of the organization, for revitalizing our national and local boards, and for improving members' experiences.

While we will build bridges between national and one local chapter, many of the issues affecting the Southern California chapter are shared by other chapters across the country. Next month, I look forward to sharing what we learn from each other and the paths that we envision for moving forward.
E-News. SEE DETAILS BELOW

JUNE 15: "Name the Baby" deadline. A contest to rename the WCA E-Newsletter. SEE DETAILS BELOW

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR CHAPTER NEWS FOR THE WCA E-NEWSLETTER

Send your WCA chapter success stories in 100 words or less and a juicy photo jpg at 72 dpi (please include photo credits and descriptions) to the newsletter editor, Margaret Parker at mparkerst@gmail.com by the 15th of each month. If your story is longer, send a 50 word intro and a PDF of the whole piece that we can link to. Also pitch stories that might be good for future issues so we can look forward to them.

You can also send out your national WCA Calls for Art through the e-newsletter. Send your information to us and we'll post it. Get artists from around the country entering your shows!

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Margaret Parker
WCA E-Newsletter Editor
WCA Communications VP
mparkerst@gmail.com

Susan King
WCA President
artsandbooks@gmail.com

CHICAGO CHAPTER NEWS:
Humanity Rising, a pop-up exhibition in Evanston, IL

Chicago Women's Caucus for Art presented Humanity Rising, a Pop-up Exhibition at The New Studio in Evanston, IL, from April 28-April 30.

*Humanity Rising- A Social/Political Reaction to the Tenor of our Country*, was born out of the unease that we, as members of the caucus, felt in the wake of our political condition. The work expresses the need for artists to speak out about the current tone and tenor of our nation, including any work concerning issues that affect women’s lives, or anyone else who is oppressed.

Over the weekend CWCA hosted a well attended opening reception, a discussion on art and politics, a presentation of the documentary film about activist artist, Peggy Lipschutz, “Never Turning Back: The World of Peggy Lipschutz”, and a closing reception. The exhibit was dedicated to the memory of a caucus artist, Arlene Harris (see more in Passages).

www.chicagowca.com
"Name the Baby" Contest

We’re looking for a new name for our monthly online newsletter. Something snappy that says this is where you can find out what other chapters are doing, connect with National, keep track of the calendar for upcoming events, find calls for shows around the country, meet some far-flung Members-at-Large and get inspired.

Submit your brilliant ideas to mparkerst@gmail.com, subject line: WCA Name the Baby, due June 15. Surprise us!

New and Revised!
WCA Guidelines for Members and Chapters

We have combined the old WCA Guidelines and the old Handbook for Treasures and Membership Chairs into one document. This new booklet provides updated information on WCA Membership, Chapter Responsibilities Chapter forming, and a job descriptions and information for Membership & Treasurer Chairs. To access this document, any member can log into the membership portal on the WCA website and find it under Membership/WCA Documents.

TEXAS CHAPTER NEWS:
New Chapter gets into Gear

From left to right: Carmen Menza, Vice President; Sonali Khatti, Membership Director; Erika Jaeggli, Publications Director; Jessica Ingle, President; Chesley Williams, Secretary; Madeleine Fitzgerald, Treasurer; Chelsea Pierce, selected curator of Vignette

Our first event for the newly formed WCA chapter in Dallas, the Vignette Art Fair, was a success! We had 10 curator submissions and 77 artist submissions from across Texas to participate. The curator of the show, Chelsea Pierce of the Dallas Museum of Art, then chose 29 artists and 43 works of art and one performance piece. 280 people attended the opening event and a total of nearly 400 people came through the space during the short run of the show. We held two panel discussions, one on “Art & Community” and one on “Art & Collecting”, they were both well attended. The videos will be uploaded to our Facebook page and website soon. Quite a few artists sold works and said they’d like to participate again next year. There was even a short write-up during the fair in D Magazine.

More info at texaswca.org.
Here is a quick overview...

**Chapter One:** Individual Member Information and Responsibilities

**Chapter Two:** Chapter Responsibilities to the National Organization

**Chapter Three:** Handbook for Treasurer and Membership Chairs

**Chapter Four:** How to Start a Chapter

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Danielle Georgia, *Step-Mother Earth*, 2017, Performance piece

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**MEMBER-AT-LARGE TRIBUTE**

**KELSEY MCDONNELL**

Painter: Buffalo, Wyoming

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I grew up in rural Wyoming and Montana, I'm currently located in Buffalo, Wyoming. The experiences I've gathered in this landscape have been both a blessing and, at times, a hindrance. I'm a painter and also run an Etsy shop full time. I love this small community and the open spaces, but the conservative views are a constant hurdle for me. Being a WCA member-at-large allows me to be part of a greater community, one that is more closely aligned with my journey as an artist and human.

"Fours years of flowers" is a new series I started in 2017. I will continue to paint these flowers throughout President Trump’s...
term as a way to “grow through it”. Traditionally flowers are
giving to both those who are celebrating and those who are
mourning. I find the flowers to be very therapeutic for me to
paint as I process what this election means and how it is
affecting everyday people.

I appreciate this opportunity and the continued membership in
WCA. More info at kelseymcdonnell.com

Four Years of Flowers #14 by Kelsey McDonnell

WCA FEATURED ARTISTS

Our June artist Trayc Claybrook will be featured on the WCA website this month. Here is
some more information about May artist, Jan Brandt. Each month WCA features a
WCA artist on the home page of our website. Look for the 2018 Featured Artist call for
entries later in the year.

MAY 2017: JAN BRANDT
Inspired by the rich history of quilt-making and fiber art, Jan Brandt hand-stitches disparate textiles such as donated clothing, pompoms, and muslin into three dimensional hybrid assemblages. An organic process drives this intricate work evoking growth and accumulation. The assemblages may read as biological experiments growing in petri dishes, specimens under glass, or fantastical landscapes of overgrown organisms while referencing feminine artistic techniques and traditions.

*Brandt is a member of the Chicago Chapter. She is a fiber artist, printmaker and painter. Find more info at janbrandtartist.com.*

Photo: *Spiral Growth by Jan Brandt*

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**PASSAGES**

*Angela Harris, 1947-2017*

*Painter, Chicago Chapter*

Andrea came late to painting, but pursued it passionately, producing hundreds of paintings, many large-format, in styles that ranged from impressionist scenes from nature to realistic renderings of places and people. A notable series of 50 paintings titled “Women of
Courage” has been shown in galleries across the U.S. as well as in Europe. She was a stalwart board member of Chicago Women’s Caucus for Art, helping in ways big and small. Bursting with energy, Harris biked, skied, and became a marathon runner of note, passing the torch for the 1980 Winter Olympics. From fashion model to clothing designer, writer and painter, she never stopped expanding her horizons and her belief in women. She was a director of the Chicago chapter of the U.S. National Committee for UN Women, working for social, political and economic equality for women and girls around the world. Andrea died of complications from ovarian cancer on April 2, 2017, survived by her husband Bart and sons Aaron and Joel; and a grandson. Memorial donations may be made to the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition, Illinois Chapter, Illinois@ovarian.org or to a cancer foundation of your choice.

Find more at andreaharris.com

www.nationalwca.org

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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