



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

We are committed to:

recognizing the contribution of women in the arts

providing women with leadership opportunities and professional development

expanding networking and exhibition opportunities for women

supporting local, national and global art activism

advocating for equity in the arts for all

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WCA President's Update

from the desk of Priscilla Otani



Greetings From the President

As your new WCA President, I look forward to serving you and delivering many of the ambitious strategies that Janice Nesser-Chu and I developed over the last two years. During my Presidency, we will focus on three key initiatives: Legacy, National Exhibitions, and Chapter Community. These initiatives address areas of vital importance and interest for members.

Since 1979, we have honored women in the arts through our Lifetime Achievement Awards and documented their legacy through the LTA catalogs. For many years we desired to do more, to ensure that their works and writings are collected and preserved. In 2011, the estate of Sylvia Sleight helped propel our dreams forward by partnering with us to donate her works to art institutions. The Legacy Initiative, headed by Past President Janice Nesser-Chu will focus on strategies to bring women's art and scholarship into educational institutions and museums.

The National Exhibitions Initiative is based on the second-highest request from members who responded to our 2010 survey: more exhibition opportunities. Headed by Second VP & Exhibitions Director Karen Gutfreund, this initiative will expand the number and variety of national exhibition, curatorial, and catalog essay opportunities for artists, curators, and art historians.

The Chapter Community Initiative lead by President-Elect Brenda Oelbaum will focus on the main reason people join WCA - for community and networking opportunities. This initiative will tap into the vibrancy of local chapters and newly revitalized internal caucuses.

As part of the Chapter Community Initiative, the President's Update will become a news forum for national, chapters, caucuses and individual members. If you have a best practice, useful tips or a good story to share, please write to me at president@nationalwca.org.

Momentum!



In the City of Los Angeles, our 40th Anniversary Conference offered a multi-layered smorgasbord of panels, tours, exhibitions, meetings, galas, and celebrations. The magnitude of the effort that went into this conference cannot be described in a few words. I'd like to express my thanks to all of the WCA members who helped make our 40th Anniversary *Momentum* a success.

THANK YOU!

Leslie Aguillard, Jaimianne Amicucci, Salma Arastu, Loisann Arnold, Tanya Augsburg, Ulla Barr, Barbara Bruch, Judith Brodsky, Diane Burko, Dail Chambers, Yueh-mei Cheng, Jennifer Colby, Sherri Cornett, Diane Destiny, Eleanor Dickinson, Rozanne DiSilvestro, Holly Dodge, Karen Frostig, Linda Gilbert-Schneider, Chanel Matsunami Govreau, Fay Grajower, Karen Gutfreund, Kelly Hammargren, Ann Sutherland Harris, Marilyn Hayes, Anukriti Sud Hittle, Ann Isolde, Kristi Jiannacopoulos, Niku Kashef, Susan Kraft, Rebecca Kramer, Rona Lesser, Karin Luner, Margaret Lutze, Bonnie MacAllister, Muriel Magenta, Amanda Mears, Laura Meyer, Eva Montealegre, Sherry Moore, Sandra Mueller, Dena Muller, Avinger Nelson, Janice Nesser-Chu, Helen Poole Newman, Jill Nicholson, Brenda Oelbaum, Dale

Osterle, Elizabeth Otto, Margaret Parker, Roxanne Phillips, Cherie M. Redlinger, Ally Richter, Patricia Rodriguez, Ann Rowles, Karen Schiffman, Mary Shisler, Simone Soltan, Yuriko Takata, Deborah Thomas, Amy Tobin, Linda Vallejo, Jeane Vogel, Barbara Wolanin, and Katherine Zoraster.

Meet Leslie Aguillard: Southwest Regional VP, Surrealist, Soon-to-Be Catholic Priest



Leslie Aguillard is a member of the WCA Colorado chapter where she wears the dual hat of Treasurer and Membership Chair. She's also the Southwest Regional VP on the National WCA Board.

In keeping with her multi-tasking abilities, Aguillard is a painter, drawer and sculptor. She considers her style to be surrealist and figurative. Her works often reflect her attitude

about societal issues.

Her perspectives were shaped from years of standing her ground against gender stereotyping, church dogma, male chauvinism, and the class system. Bucking the system has led Aguillard on an interesting career as a musician, painter, gallery owner, and registered nurse.

Aguillard was recruited to WCA after a member saw one of her exhibitions. She has been actively engaged since, and wants to make sure artists in the Southwest get equal representation with those in the East and West Coasts.

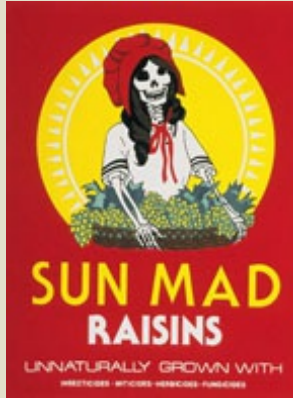
The Southwest Region includes Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada and Colorado. Currently there are only two active chapters in her region - the newly formed Texas Chapter and Colorado. There are a number of Member-at-Large artists in the other states that Aguillard hopes will grow in number, and some day form chapters. The Texas and Colorado chapters are meeting regularly and planning group shows. The Colorado members are currently participating in a sketchbook project, there are plans for an art retreat to Ghost Ranch in the Fall, and the next meeting will involve a hat-decorating project. The chapter has a special relationship with Lifetime Achievement Awardee Senga Negudi, who lives in Colorado Springs.



Aguillard's wishlist includes collaborations across chapters, more open-minded university art departments, a WCA poster that she can use for member recruitment drives, and a simpler "How to Start a Chapter" toolkit.

Nearly 20 years ago, Aguillard witnessed a woman being ordained as a Catholic priest. This became a catalyst to study at the Independent Catholic Church of Antioch and at the Ascension Alliance, initially to obtain a master's degree in Divinity, and ultimately to seek priesthood. Aguillard will be ordained as a priest on May 5 and celebrate her first public Eucharist on May 6.

2009 Lifetime Achievement Awardee Ester Hernandez In Washington DC



Ester Hernandez traveled to Washington, DC on Monday, March 26, 2012, at the invitation of US Secretary of Labor, Hilda Solis who hosted *The Induction of the Pioneers of the Farm Workers Movement* into the Labor Hall of Fame, and the *Naming of the Cesar Chavez Auditorium*. Hernandez also attended an art exhibition at the Department of Labor's Great Hall that included her screenprints, *Sun Mad* (above) and *Sun Raid*. Before departing for Washington, Hernandez said, "I hope my artwork is not censored --especially after they read my artist statement!"

Philadelphia Chapter's Gender Games



As part of International Women's Day 2012, artists in the WCA Philadelphia Chapter organized *Gender Games*, an exhibition that focuses on provocative "toys" about gender justice, gender roles, societal prescriptions, global impact, creative reasoning and socialization. This is the third year this chapter has partnered with the University of Pennsylvania, the United Nations Association of Greater Philadelphia, and the Women's Campaign International. Through the International Women's Day event and exhibition, WCA Philadelphia reaches a wide number of university and professional audiences who might not otherwise attend a gallery opening.

Exhibiting WCA artists at the University of Pennsylvania's International House include Alison Altergott, Joan Arbeiter, Qaadira Allen, Ellen Bonett, Kathleen Dallara, Megan Driscoll, Danielle Ferrell, Pam Flynn, Martha Knox, Bonnie MacAllister, Heather Penn, Jean Plough, Eva Aanya Preston (artwork above), Ana Vizcarra Rankin, Simone Spicer, Sar Suleman, and Rachel Udell.

The *Gender Games* exhibition opened on March 14 as part of the Penn Women's Center event, *Gender Games: Strategies for Achieving Gender Justice in Women's Health Worldwide*. In addition to the WCA art exhibition, this event included a performance by the Anna Crusis Women's Choir and a panel on women's health moderated by Dr. Felicity Paxton, Penn Women's Center Director with panelists Dr. Marilyn Sommers, Director of the Center for Global Women's Health and Naima Black from the Philadelphia Collaborative for Reproductive Justice and Support. The *Gender Games* exhibition continues through June 4.

For more information, click below:

[Philadelphia WCA blog](#)

[University of Pennsylvania](#)

[International House Philadelphia](#)

Thank you Bonnie MacAllister for reporting on this event. What a great example of collaboration and art activism!

WCA on [FACEBOOK](#)

president@nationalwca.org

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